



*There is a garden
That I see
In dreams
In twilight hours.*

WHAT SHALL I DO WITH MY GARDEN ?

by

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With a Foreword by

A. J. MACSELF



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FOREWORD

GARDEN making was formerly a task for professional landscape gardeners, but today it is handled either by choice or necessity by enthusiastic amateurs. It is not even limited to men of brawn and muscle, for there are many ladies who do not shrink from the labour of planning and constructing the gardens attached to their newly acquired homes.

Viewed from the most important standpoint of all, it is well that the adjunct to the home which ought above all else to be a haven of peace and contentment should be designed, formed, and planted by its owner. Thus it may satisfy one's own conception of charm and pleasing character.

Those who, for the first time, contemplate making a garden feel at the very outset the need for guidance and information on many important matters, and since it is vital to the successful development of a garden that every stage of the work shall be upon correct lines, a thoroughly practical book is the first requirement.

The number of books on garden-making is great; their character and utility vary to a remarkable extent. Nevertheless there are sound reasons for claiming that this volume will be found an uncommonly valuable and helpful work, and just such a guide as is needed by the wide circle of readers for whom it is specifically designed—those, to wit, who are about to transform uncultivated plots of land into gardens for their own enjoyment.

The book is written by one who combines a wonderful artistic temperament and imagination with an extensive knowledge of plants and practical experience of gardencraft.

Foreword

There is, happily, in all her work and expressed ideas freedom from stereotyped convention; the plans, descriptions, suggestions, and advice bristle with originality. On every page is to be found something distinctly out of the ordinary, yet the most practical of orthodox gardeners must freely admit that the technical teaching is thoroughly sound, and may be followed with confidence that success will be achieved.

Whilst the plans and the instructions are sufficiently definite to make both easily followed by those who wish to carry out any one scheme in entirety, the real purpose which the author has wisely adhered to is to make the whole work suggestive of what may be done where average conditions correspond with those outlined. The reader will, advisedly, read the whole book and meditate upon the points which are obviously applicable to his own case, and then work out a plan to suit his particular requirements and conditions.

The series of plans, whilst confining themselves within the reasonable scope of the present-day villas and bungalows surrounding practically every town and city throughout Britain, embrace sufficient variation in character, environment, and capabilities to meet all ordinary circumstances in so far as fundamental and inevitable conditions may be concerned. They leave such latitude and possibility for amendment, elaboration, or condensation in feature and detail that none need feel necessity to slavishly adhere to any one of the schemes, even though the general idea is to be followed.

The lists of plants for specific purposes will be an acceptable feature, and here, as in all else, the technical knowledge as well as the artistic quality of the author's work is of an unusually high and satisfactory standard.

A. J. MACSELF.

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SYMBOLS USED



* * *	Trees
○ ○ ○	Fruit Trees
≡ ≡ ≡	Edging Plants
	Flower Border
↘ ↘	Downward Slope
□ □	Stone Vase
	Clumps of Flowers
≡ ≡ ≡	Carpet Plants
⊗ ⊗ ⊗	Standard Roses
⊙ ⊙	Flower Tub
	Pavement
⊗ ⊗ ⊗	Rose Pillars
	Box Edging
⊙ ⊙ ⊙	Shrubs

PART I

GENERAL NOTES ON GARDEN PLANNING

PART I

GENERAL NOTES ON GARDEN PLANNING

THE value of a small garden does not lie in the amount of produce that it yields, but in the pleasure, the interest, and the healthy exercise that it adds to our lives.

In planning an absolutely new garden, the householder is usually confronted with a barren waste of rough turf, weeds, heaps of stones, and lime left by the builders. At first sight the outlook seems hopeless, since it is often impossible to give much time and thought to making the best of a small plot of ground. To the inexperienced the "Planning" is often a greater difficulty than the actual labour. Those in doubt will find the suggestive schemes included in this book helpful when setting out to plan new gardens. The information for the actual cultivation of the plants can easily be found in any practical book on gardening and in such papers as *Amateur Gardening*.

All over the country six-roomed houses and bungalows are being rapidly erected, and these are usually accompanied by more or less rectangular plots of land, separated from the neighbouring precisely similar plots by a low fence. However small these plots are, with care and thought they may be transformed into delightful additions to the home, for in them many happy hours may be spent.

Supposing the house is finished and that the new owner confronts the adjacent piece of uncultivated ground. Before considering the question of the actual borders, paths, etc.,

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it is a good thing to make a few general observations in the "garden" as it stands. As a rule, the exact size of the plot is known when the land is purchased, and if the reader wishes to make a plan of the garden—always a wise beginning—it is easy to obtain a few sheets of graph paper (each inch divided into tenths), and to draw upon one of these an outline of the plot to this scale—i.e., 10 feet to

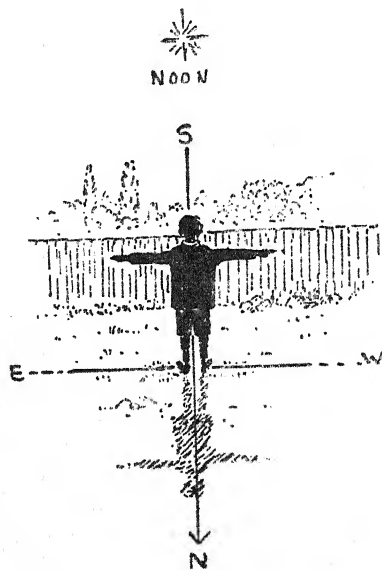


FIG. 1.—FINDING THE ASPECT.

the inch. When this is done, note on the plan the aspect of house and garden as accurately as possible. This may be found by using a *pocket compass*, or, if this is not at hand, by *observation of the position of the sun* at noon (12 o'clock winter time, 1 p.m. summer time). Standing facing the sun, your face is to the south, your back to the north; the east is on your left hand, and the west on your right hand.

General Notes on Garden Planning

When the aspect of the garden is known, it is possible to bear in mind where the sunny borders will be situated and which parts of the garden will be in the shade.

FINDING LEVELS, ETC.

Another important point is to make a rough estimate of how the ground slopes. This will be a help in the construction of any walls, steps, terraces, etc. Surveyors, when estimating levels in roads, employ elaborate methods necessitating the use of levelling staff, telescope, etc., but it

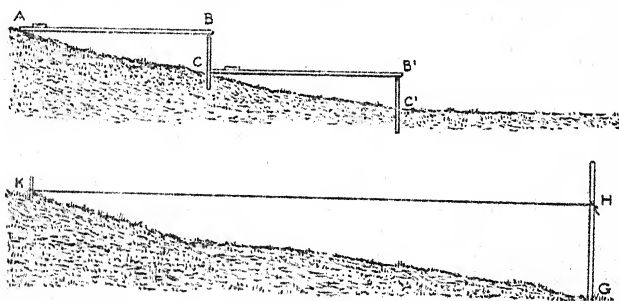


FIG. 2.—LEVELLING SLOPES.

Dealing with irregular ground in short stages.

A lengthy slope. The depth between H and G represents the fall between K and H.

is not necessary to make use of these in a small garden. A simple method that answers quite satisfactorily is to collect a few stakes, a flat board about 10 feet long, a foot rule, a garden line, and a spirit-level. If the distance of the sloping piece of ground is short, measure it as indicated in accompanying diagram, Fig. 2, placing the spirit-level on the board at A where the board rests on the ground; then measure the height of the stake BC where the board rests when level (by spirit-level)—*e.g.*, if this measures 2 feet obviously the fall is 2 feet in 10; then, carrying the board lower down the slope and resting the end at C, repeat the

What Shall I Do with My Garden?

process, and so on. If the height of the second stake BC is 1 foot 6 inches, then roughly the fall is 3 feet 6 inches in 20 feet.

In practice it is possible to judge when the board is level by eye if no spirit-level is available.

The method described is suitable for flower borders, lawns, etc., but to find the slope for a longer distance—viz., from the house to the end of the garden—it is convenient to use a cord instead of the board (Fig. 3), pegging the line near the house. Drive a long post into the ground near

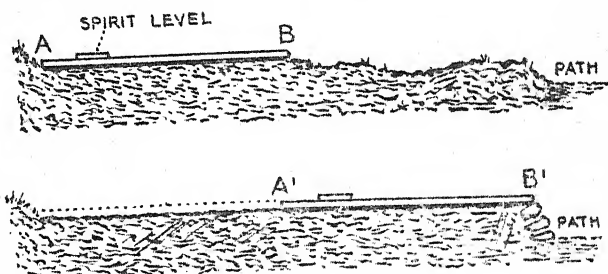


FIG. 3.—LEVELLING SOIL.

First section, A to B, brought to level by aid of straight-edge and spirit-level.

Second section. The straight-edge moved along to continue the work of levelling.

the end fence. If a wireless post is already there, the lower part of it would serve the purpose, or the fence could be used. By measuring the distance from the ground to the place where the string (when level) is attached to the post, one can ascertain the "drop" in the whole length of the garden.

When it is desired to make up a border or bed for a lawn so that it is quite level, use the flat board AB (as long as possible) with a spirit-level, and so build the soil to the required height, moving the board across the border if necessary to AB.

General Notes on Garden Planning

The angle of the slope of a bank may be measured by using a clinometer against the edge of the up-tilted board. A rough clinometer is easily constructed by cutting a semi-

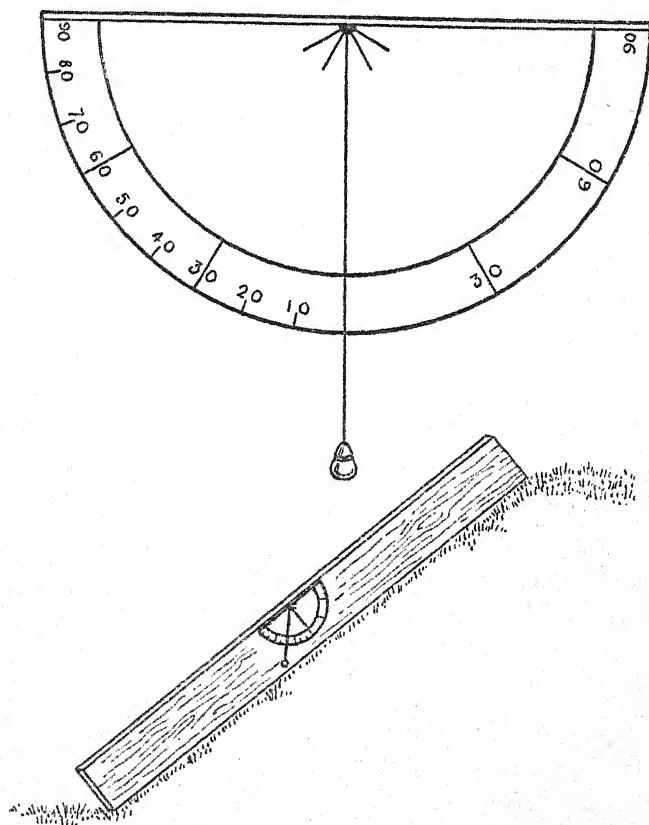


FIG. 4.—THE CLINOMETER AND ITS USE.

Top drawing, a home-made instrument. Lower drawing, the regulating board and clinometer in use.

circular piece of cardboard, as in diagram, and marking the degrees on it. Some kind of weight, such as a small piece of lead or even a heavy nail, is attached to a thin thread

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fixed at the centre of the semicircle. This forms a plumb-line which marks off the angle of the slope in degrees.

In "measuring up" a garden for the first time, if it is possible to get anyone to help it will save a great deal of time and extra trouble.

Soil is another very important consideration. People sometimes purchase land without considering in any way the kind of rock which underlies the surface vegetation; whereas this is of the utmost importance both to personal health and to the successful planting of the garden. Soil is the accumulation of the broken-up particles of surface rock, due to destructive action of frost, changes of temperature, rain, etc., together with remains of decaying animal and vegetable matter known as humus. It is this humus which supports the life of the various bacteria—*i.e.*, minute organisms which bring about important chemical changes in the minerals in the soil. The amount of water present in soils is an important point; some soils are porous—*i.e.*, allow water to pass easily through the particles so that the moisture does not collect; these soils are well drained, dry and healthy for building land.

Sandstone, chalk, and gravel below the building plot are healthy for dwelling places, but a very dry sandy soil may be detrimental to many plants unless it receives special treatment with manures. Clay soils, on the other hand, are non-porous or impervious to rain, as the particles are so fine and closely packed together that the percolation of water is almost impossible. In winter these soils are often waterlogged, and therefore damp and unhealthy for the sites of houses, and too wet for plants, as the air spaces are blocked up, so that the root hairs are not able to absorb freely. In summer clay soil gets hardened and cracks if left unaltered, but if lightened by the addition of ashes, grit and lime, and well drained, a soil of this type may give excellent results.

Lime is a very important constituent of the soil, and if not already present should be added; as in the case of clay

General Notes on Garden Planning

soils, it makes them more pliable, and with light soils it helps to bind the particles together and hold their moisture. Its presence in soil can easily be tested by placing some soil in a jam-jar, and then adding a little hydrochloric acid. If lime is present effervescence takes place.

The above observations may all be made in a short afternoon's work, and with these general conditions noted down, and having some outline in mind of the best positions for sunny borders, rockeries, etc., an inspection of the suggestive schemes in Part II. will help the reader to find a plan which could be adapted to suit the particular requirements of the contemplated task of designing and laying out his garden.

Some of the chief points to be borne in mind are the following:

Try to arrange that the whole garden does not come into view at once. A hedge or a rose-trellis cutting off a part of the garden seems to increase its extent, but one or two gaps should be left to form vistas and give peeps at what lies beyond. This view is often more attractive when seen through two or more arches covered with climbing plants.

Arches can be made of plain 4 inch by 4 inch or 2 inch by 4 inch posts, or of rustic poles, usually obtainable in the neighbourhood or bought in sections.

Long paths with a series of arches increase the apparent length of a small garden, but close rose pergolas are, perhaps, better suited to larger, old-fashioned places.

Decide where seats may offer opportunity to enjoy the view, or, at any rate, where one may admire the nooks and corners and bright combinations of colour in beds and borders. This is a point which is often overlooked. These seats need not be of an expensive kind; an old log against the fence under an arch, a broad stone step in a bank, or even a wide board resting across rocks in some quiet corner, will answer the purpose equally well.

Changes of level add interest and charm to a garden, but before carrying out any excavations of this kind it is always

What Shall I Do with My Garden?

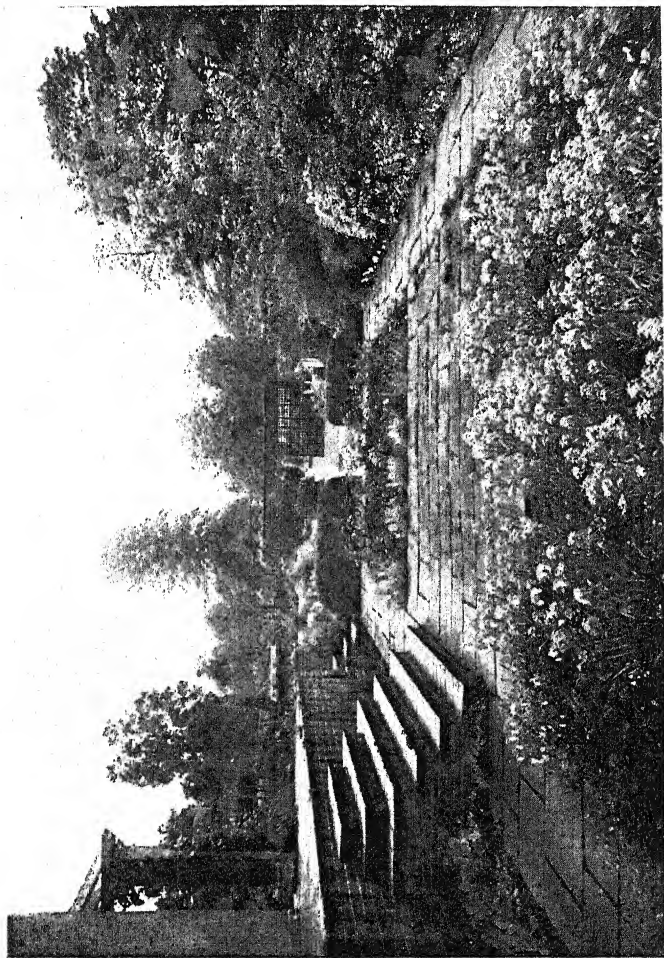
advisable to obtain from the architect or builder accurate information as to positions of drains and water-pipes, as these are not far below the surface, and if the amount of earth covering them is interfered with, they are more liable to be affected by changes of temperature.

Sunk rose-gardens (see Part II.), grass steps, and raised grass walks are not very difficult to make, and amply repay the trouble of construction by the attraction they add to the general scheme. All changes of level are more successfully carried out where the ground slopes naturally, but with careful draining (a point of vital importance) sunk gardens may be made in perfectly level plots. To test if ground requires special draining, dig a hole about 2 to 3 feet deep in winter and note the rate at which water collects in it. If it fills very rapidly it is necessary to drain, and this can be done by running a drain diagonally across the plot. The pipe to carry the water away must have a gentle slope towards the lowest point of the plot, where provision must be secured for ready escape of the drainage water.

Another important point is to endeavour to screen the garden from the road and from the neighbouring gardens. Most small gardens have low dividing fences, and it is often possible to look over several gardens on either side. This is one of the greatest trials of living in a row of new houses, even if they are "detached." Unfortunately most architects put the back door of the house at the back, so that the tradespeople overlook the garden, instead of putting it at the side, near the garage, where it would be obscure. Screens from the road can be made by wooden fences with doors, hedges with arches and small gates, trellis-work with gate, or by closely planted shrubs.

In the case of the side and end fences, the most satisfactory screen is a high wooden wall of overlapping paling, but this is rather costly. The advantages of this type of fence are that not only does it give privacy from the neighbouring gardens, but can be utilized for training fruit trees.

*Where architect
and garden
designer meet —
a happy blending
of varied interests.*



General Notes on Garden Planning

When the plan on paper is finished, the actual work in the garden can proceed. Going back to the original plot with the heaps of stones, the first thing to do is to clear the surface, saving all the larger stones for rock work, and the small stones, brick-ends, etc., for drainage or the foundation of paths. After this has been done trim, lift, and stack any turf that appears to be good enough for using again, making heaps of the good soil which occurs just below the turf. Any turf which is not wanted can be stacked separately for rotting down. If good short turf is conveniently available it is better not to use any of the rough field turf, but if not, the latter can be made quite good in time if constantly cut and rolled.

Sometimes it is possible to leave the rough turf *in situ* if it is to be used for a grass path and can be left at its existing level, but if any alterations of level, steps, etc., are required, it is better to remove all the turf first, as described above.

In removing turf a line should be used to ensure a good edge. At this point a good many small stakes will be required and a measuring tape. It is a good plan to begin near the house end, and work gradually away, measuring the distances from one of the side fences as a base line.

Supposing, for example, that Plan No. 1 has been selected and the turf removed and stacked, surface cleared, and that the ground slopes slightly near the house, but is level towards the end of the garden. The first thing to do is to mark off the line for the terrace with a row of pegs, and then level this up to the house foundation in the way described at the beginning of this section. Then measure the width of the two narrow beds by the house and the position of the grass plots on the terrace, and mark these with the small stakes. After this make the bank at the required angle, filling in some rubbish, small stones, etc., near the base to form drainage, add some garden soil, and fix in a few large rocks to hold it up, if any suitable rocks have been left by the builder; if not, leave the soil bank for rocks to be added

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later. This bank is not a rockery for rare rock-plants, but only a bank with masses of brightly coloured, easily grown carpet plants, such as aubrietia, arabis, alyssum, forget-me-not, saxifrage, etc.

After the bank is made it would be best to get the rest of the garden approximately level; at any rate, the part that is going to be lawn. If the vegetable garden slopes a little it will be an advantage. When the levelling is finished the borders and pathways could be measured and outlined with stakes. Each border later should slope from the fence slightly towards the path. Similarly the position of the paths and beds in the kitchen garden may be measured and marked.

Paving may be left until the digging of the borders has been accomplished. If the sites of paths are dug a layer of grit or cinders will form drainage. The completion of the paths will depend upon what type is selected (see Part V.).

Turning attention as soon as possible to the work on the borders, these require deep digging and freely manuring. If the borders are dug and manured in September, planting could be done in November, but it is better to leave new ground exposed during the first winter, and do the planting in the following spring. The fruit trees, however, could be planted in the autumn, and both planted in October or November.

Paving and rustic work can be carried out during the autumn and winter, the borders re-dug in January; rose trees and hardy perennials planted out in February and March when seeds of vegetables and hardy annuals should be sown out of doors, potatoes and artichokes planted, and so on. Part III. is intended to be a guide in the choice of plants for the borders; in the table of plants in this part will be found their colours, heights, times of flowering, duration of life, etc. Only well-known and easily grown flowers have been chosen, as it is better to make a start with these, adding the lesser known types later on. For the first year annuals will be

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a great help in making a display of colour and covering up bare soil.

A garden does not come all at once, but slowly evolves itself to the mental picture that will be envisaged as one becomes more acquainted with the home and its environment and with plants that appeal to one's taste.

The most important point is not to be discouraged by the the difficulties and apparent failures, as it will come in time. The end of the second year should show what can rightly be termed a garden, and *finem respice* should be the motto of all garden-makers.

PART II

PLANS FOR GARDENS

PART II

PLANS FOR GARDENS

THE ten plans here provided show schemes for laying out small new gardens of varying sizes and different aspects.

The first presumes an area of 60 feet by 40 feet, the length being reckoned from the house wall to the boundary fence. This will be recognized as approximately the extent of a large proportion of the plots belonging to the small new houses and bungalows to be seen in the outskirts of most towns. Other plans deal with slightly larger plots of similar character; and it will be possible for the reader, by studying the lay-out of three plans, to adopt certain features of each and blend these to make a design which may be more to his liking than an exact reproduction of either.

The whole aim of the author is to guide by suggestion, and by no means to urge that the creation of a garden should be reduced to slavishly carrying out a set pattern in every detail as though to vary a measurement or omit a feature would be a grave error. Let these plans serve the novice to the extent of helping to secure general effect and pleasing perspective, but do not let them thwart the legitimate desire to express one's individuality and conception of art.

Designs are given for front gardens in No. 2 and No. 8. The plans for the three smallest gardens illustrate suggestions for the various treatments of very similar plots. In the case of No. 9, a "double" plot is considered, where there is room for a tennis lawn, and No. 10 is larger, and has trees already growing upon it.

PLAN No. 1.

What Shall I Do with My Garden?

PLAN NO. I.

PARTICULARS.

Size.—Approximately 40 feet by 60 feet.

Aspect.—East and west.

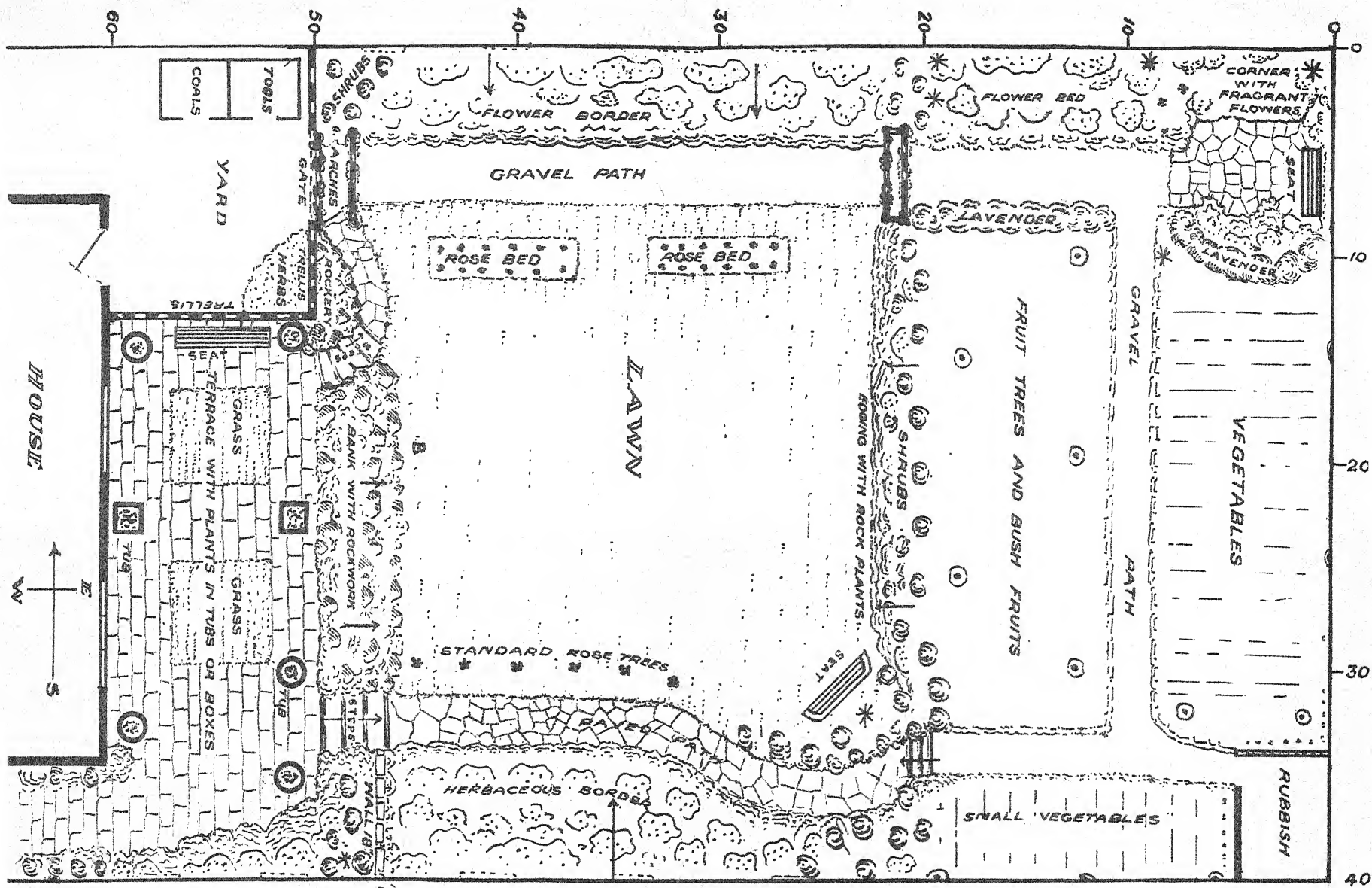
Surface.—Originally level, but the lawn has been lowered about 18 inches to 2 feet to slightly vary the character of the surface.

The garden will be sunny through the greater part of the day, but the terrace and rock-bank will be in the shade in the late afternoon and evening. The plan is simple and easily carried out. In Part I. instructions in the first steps to be taken with an entirely new garden such as this were given, so that only a few short notes of explanation are necessary. The french window opens on to a paved terrace with two small plots of very short grass. Tubs, boxes or pots with plants are placed on the terrace (see the end of Part IV.). A trellis with climbing plants (see Part VI. for choice of plants) makes a screen from the back door and small yard; in front of this is a seat. At the opposite end of the terrace is a border of brightly coloured flowers. At the narrow end of this border are several evergreen shrubs, such as laurustinus, box, laurel, golden privet, which shut out the view from the road into the garden. In front of these shrubs and the border plants is an edging of forget-me-not.

In the right-hand corner the terrace extends to the low wall, and a tree or two might be planted here: laburnum, hawthorn, copper plum, etc.; or, if evergreens are preferred, a Scotch pine, spruce, or bay laurel (for lists of trees see Part VII.). Round the tree are a few shrubs, such as broom, buddleia, spiræa, guelder rose, lilac, etc. In the diagram the shrubs in the tubs are supposed to represent Veronica "Autumn Glory."

From the terrace stone steps lead along a paved path, then





PLAN No. 1.

PARTICULARS.

Size.—Approximately 40 feet by 60 feet.

Aspect.—East and west.

Surface.—Originally level, but the lawn has been lowered about 18 inches to 2 feet to slightly vary the character of the surface.



Plans for Gardens

up two shallow steps to the kitchen garden. Before the path reaches the kitchen garden it passes between closely planted shrubs (mixed evergreen and flowering) (see Part VII.). The curve in the path and the shrubs hide the rubbish heap in the view from the terrace. On the right of the path is a flower border, about 10 feet wide at its widest part and about 20 feet long. Climbers grow over the fence at this part of the border, and although actually in shade during most of

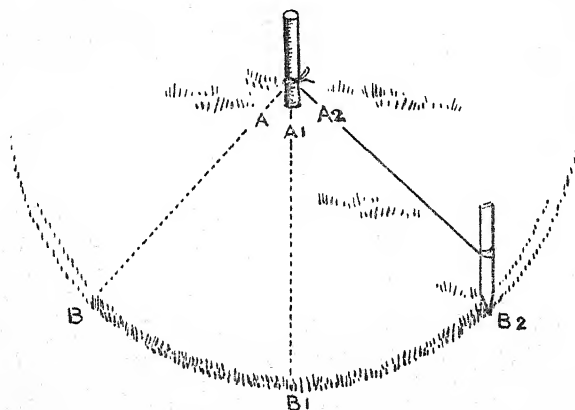


FIG. 5.—MARKING OUT CIRCULAR BEDS.

For explanation, see text.

the day, the sun is on the other side of the fence and gives ample heat.

Some colour scheme might be chosen for this bed, and the planting carried out from the suggestions given in Part III. The edging should be uneven and ramble over the pavement. The bed slopes slightly from the fence to the path. On the left of the path is the lawn, with a row of standard roses, weeping standards, or pillar roses. Ramblers can easily be trained to the last-named shapes. The rock-bank is not intended for rare Alpine plants, but for those that will give patches of bright colours, such as purple aubrietia, thrift

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(*Armeria*), *Lithospermum prostratum*, forget-me-not, yellow fumitory (*Corydalis lutea*), golden alyssum, periwinkle, white and pink saxifrage, etc. (see Part IV.). Among these rock plants bulbs of all kinds should be put in during the autumn for an early spring show. The roots of the rock plants will not interfere with the bulbs which are deeper down. A hole for these will have to be made with a dibber if there is not room for a trowel. It is better to put the bulbs in before the rock plants. The bank will be covered with the foliage

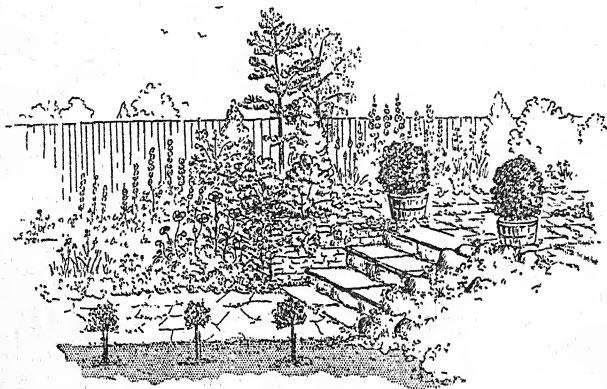


FIG. 5A.—THE STEPS AND LEFT CORNER OF PLAN.

For explanation see accompanying text.

of arabis, saxifrages, snow-in-summer, etc., all the winter, and the crocuses, grape hyacinths, scillas, hepaticas, etc., will bloom in early spring before the carpet plants. At the left-hand corner of the terrace narrow steps lead to a little path round to the gate into the yard. There are two rose arches across the path here, and a flower border about 6 feet wide runs along the fence. This border might have an edging of turf a foot wide, or of clipped box about 8 inches high, rocks with clumps of arabis between them, London pride, or a thick row of Virginian stock grown from seed. In the back of the border are perennials, some of the clumps of

Plans for Gardens

which come to the front, and between these annuals from seed sown in March will make a good show. The choice of plants will depend upon the type of border required, whether of mixed colours, contrasts, or shades of a particular colour. Some peonies would do well in this position.

A little more than half-way along the garden a bank occurs with shrubs to divide off the kitchen garden. Two or more rose-beds would be an improvement along the side

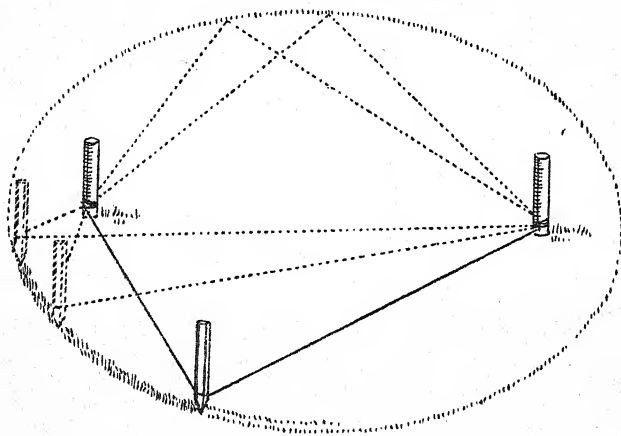


FIG. 6.—MARKING AN OVAL BED.

See text for instructions.

of the path, and these may be oval, rectangular, or circular. A circular bed can easily be marked out by driving a stake in the ground at the point which is to be the centre of the bed. Fasten a curtain-ring to the end of a cord and slip the ring over the stake. Then secure a pointed stick to the cord at a length equal to half the diameter of the desired bed. Scratch a furrow with the pointed end of the stick, marking a circle with it, as shown in the accompanying sketch. An oval or ellipse has two centres (the foci), and can be drawn by fixing two stakes, attaching string to both of them, so as to form a loop and passing the pointed stick inside the loop

What Shall I Do with My Garden?

to make the mark, first on one side and then on the other. If the stakes are close together the oval will be almost a circle; if far apart the oval will be elongated.

A double arch spans the path where the bank occurs, and beyond this is a little garden of sweet-scented flowers (see Part III.). On the right is a lavender hedge, and on the left white pinks (Mrs. Sinkins). Behind the latter is a border with madonna lilies and scented roses—*e.g.*, *La France*, *Ulrich Brunner*, *Fragrance*, *Madame Butterfly*, etc. Round the seat are bushes of rosemary, tree-lupins, lilac, and syringa. In front of the lavender there may be violets in spring, followed by night-scented stock and tobacco plant. In the corner is a pink may tree, and an arch could be put over the seat, with white jasmine, honeysuckle, and *Gloire-de-Dijon* roses. A small patch in front of the seat could be paved and a sundial or garden ornament added.

The edgings in the kitchen garden are better of tiles or board, but parsley and thyme can be grown along these if preferred. The rubbish heap can be hidden by artichokes, and a sunny corner should be found somewhere here for a marrow bed.

There is no garage with either of the first three plans.

PLAN No. 2.

What Shall I Do with My Garden?

PLAN No. 2.

PARTICULARS.

Size.—Approximately 60 feet by 40 feet.

Aspect.—North and south.

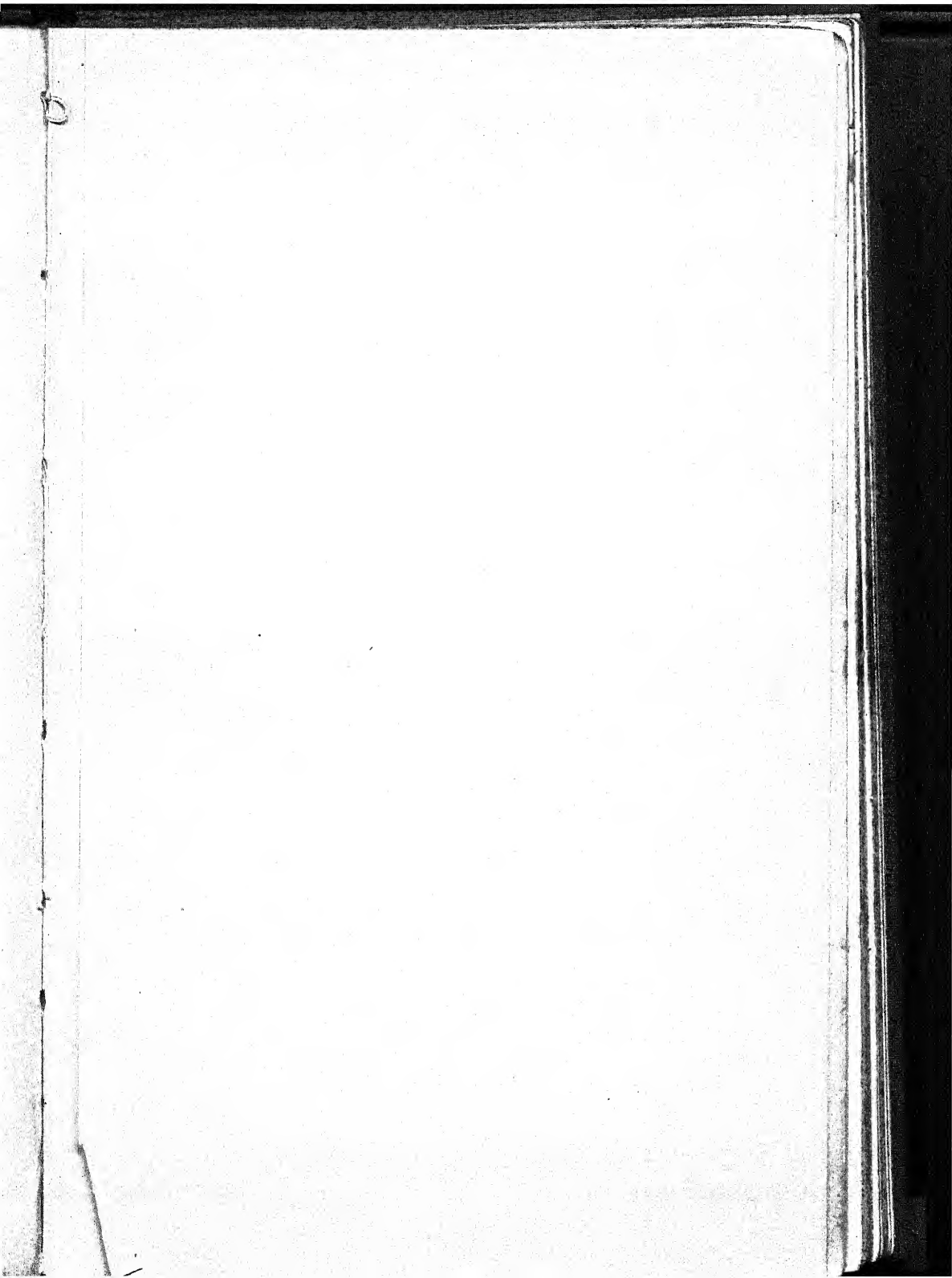
Surface.—Level.

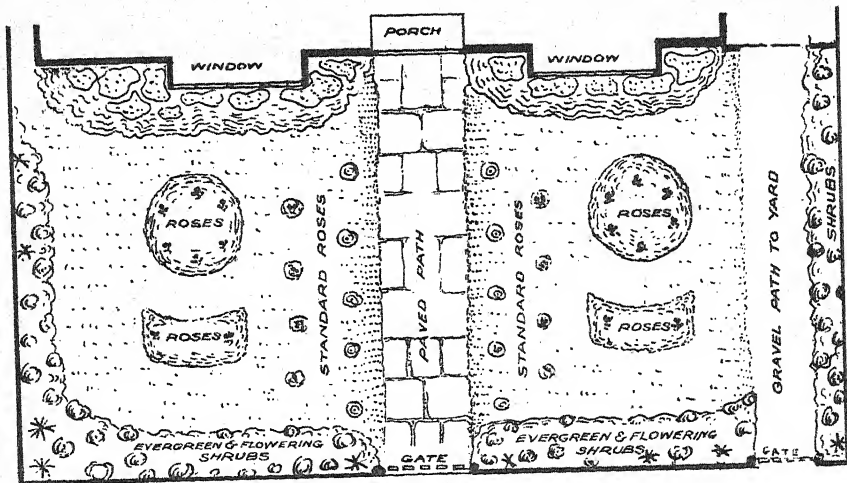
Mostly vegetables and fruit.

In this garden utility is the chief consideration, and the greater part of the land is planted with fruit trees and vegetables. Apple and pear trees are planted in grass, as they would form an attractive part of the garden, but if more vegetables are required the orchard could be dug over as far as a line from A to B, and the vegetables planted or sown between the trees. If this is done grass should be left from AB to the pavement, as it would improve the view from the windows. Bulbs of all kinds, crocuses, snowdrops, narcissi, daffodils, etc., should be naturalized in the grass, especially in the strip along the left-hand fence, as the grass could be left longer here.

In spring the fruit blossoms, bulbs, forget-me-nots and wallflowers, planted as shown on the plan, will make a lovely picture.

Over the back of the tool-house are climbing roses and clematis, but fruit trees are trained over the other fences. Loganberries will succeed on the fence at the end of the garden, and plums and cherries on the other fences. The paved terrace is only about 5 feet wide, as so little of the garden can be spared; the paved path is 2 feet 6 inches. The round rose-bed in front of the window, which is 6 feet in diameter, could be made smaller if more paved space is desired. The edging of this is of viola or pinks, and the roses may be either standards or bush type. Tulip bulbs for spring flowering are planted among the roses. At the right-hand end is a flower border (the plants for this can be chosen from the list in Part III.), and in the left are a few flowering





PLAN No. 2.

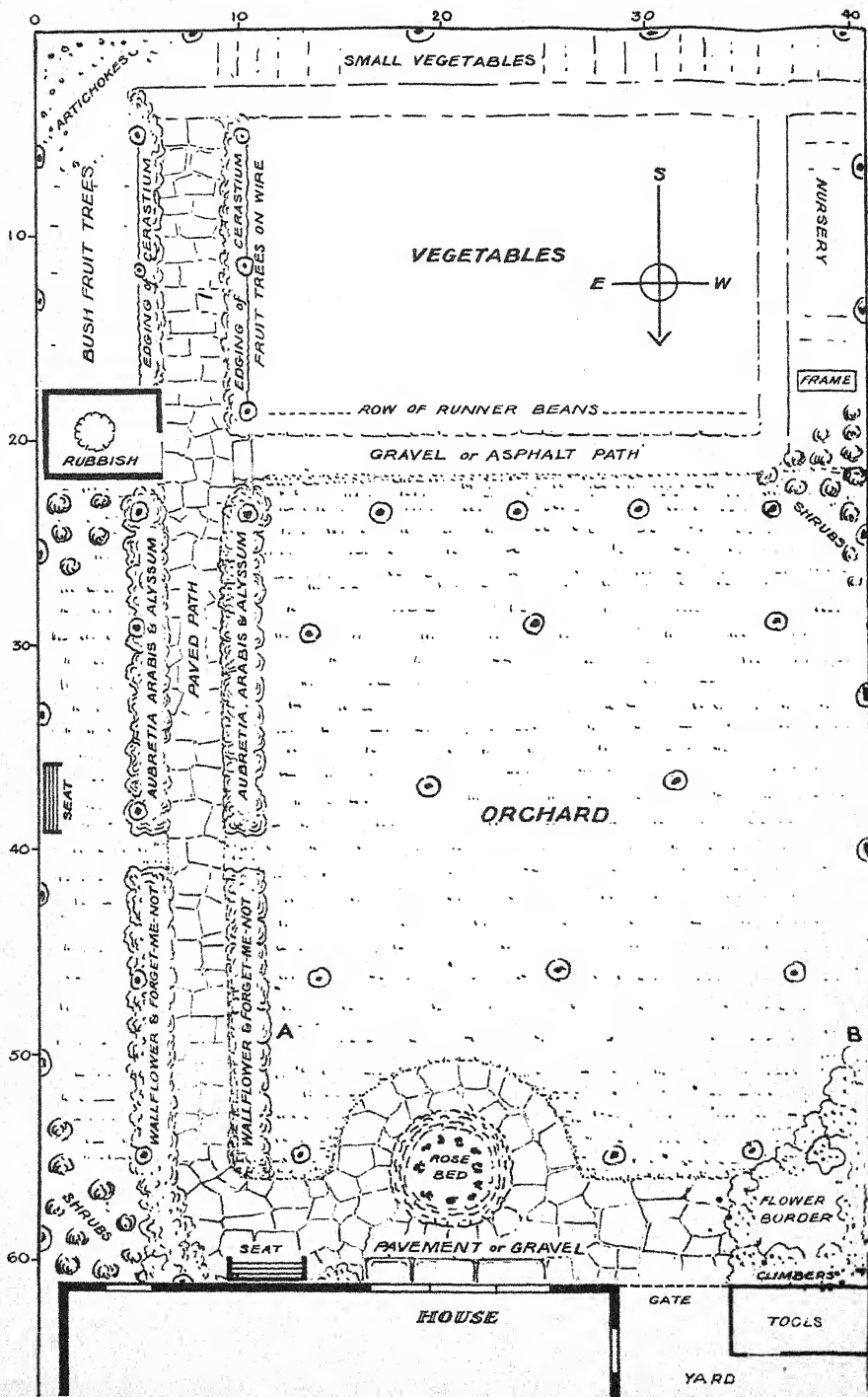
PARTICULARS.

Size.—Approximately 60 feet by 40 feet.

Aspect.—North and south.

Surface.—Level.

Mostly vegetables and fruit.





Plans for Gardens

and evergreen shrubs. The long narrow borders with bright flowers will break the monotony of the garden, and the effect will be better if the edging is carried right on into the vegetable garden, as in the plan. On each side of the farthest end of the paved path are fruit trees *trained on wire* to form a kind of hedge. A few evergreen shrubs have been planted in front of the rubbish heap, which is surrounded by a board fence and has an incinerator for burning the rubbish. The row of runner-beans across the garden would screen some of the less attractive vegetables from view.

THE FRONT GARDEN.

There is a small piece of ground in front of the house in Plan No. 2, which is approximately 20 feet by 40 feet. A paved path leads from the gate to the front door, and a gravel path to the door into the yard. In front of the windows are flower beds and small grass plots. In the grass are two rose-beds, and one or two lines of standard roses along the sides of the pathway. Mixed shrubs form a screen from the road, which will have some kind of fence or hedge, and shrubs are also planted by the fences on each side of the garden. There is no garage with this house. The borders with flowering and evergreen shrubs might have an edging of rough stones placed a little distance apart, and between these some rock plant. One or two ornamental trees (see Part VII.) are planted along the fence.

PLAN No. 3.

What Shall I Do with My Garden?

PLAN No. 3.

PARTICULARS.

Size.—Approximately 40 feet by 50 feet.

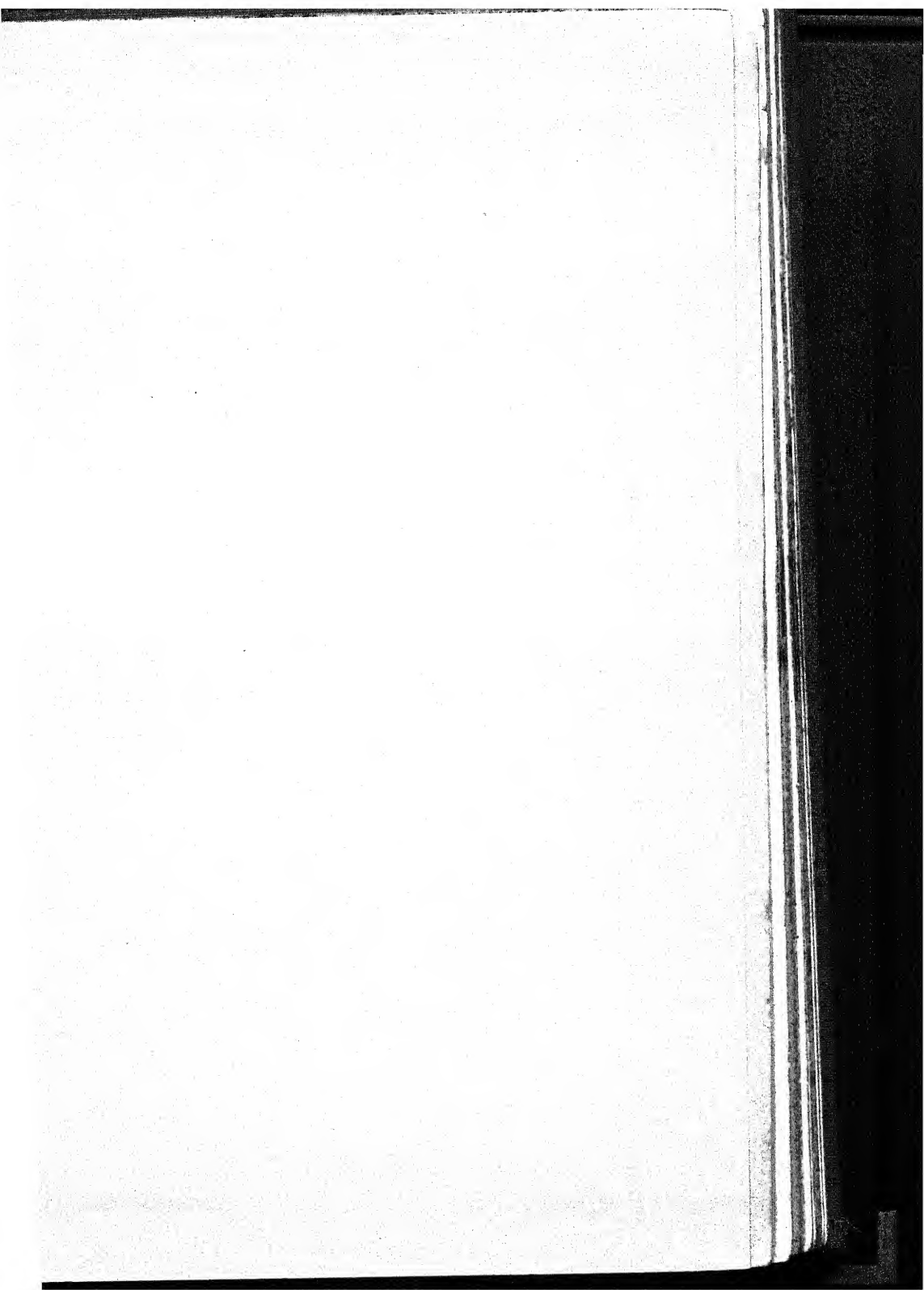
Aspect.—South-south-west and north-north-east.

Surface.—Slight slope from the house to the sunk garden.
No vegetables.

This plot is very similar to that in No. 2, but it is laid out entirely for beauty and pleasure, and no attempt is made to include vegetables or fruit. There is a slight slope, and so the garden has been divided into an upper part near the house and a sunk garden away from the house. Between these is a low dry-wall with flat slabs on the top and steps in the centre leading into the sunk rose garden. The french window opens into an attractive garden room with sliding glass doors. At the divisions of glass are posts up which climbing roses and clematis are trained. In the corner at the left is a bed of mixed delphiniums with nepeta (catmint) in front (D). A few giant sunflowers are sown between these to flower after the delphiniums are over. Hollyhocks would follow the delphiniums if planted in clumps near the back of the bed.

Roses are grown on pillars round the edge of the paved terrace and along the sides of the pathway alternating with other climbers (see plan). If preferred, arches could span this pathway. The fence is chestnut pale, so a hedge of *Cupressus macrocarpa* if in a southern county, otherwise yew or box or privet, has been planted all along the two sides; the cupressus will quickly grow 4-5 feet, and can be clipped into any shape.

In the border on the right a few shrubs fill up the corner (see Part VII.), and the rest of the bed could be worked out with a pink scheme (see table in Part III.). In the border on the left uneven clumps of Oriental poppies are interspersed with lupins, and in front are great white daisies and patches





Plans for Gardens

of brilliant pansies. The whole border might be kept to shades of orange and yellow, or any contrast selected from Part III. The wall of the sunk garden is 18 inches to 2 feet, and should be built as described in Part IV. Only aubrietia in all shades (see Part IV.) is planted along the top of the wall and hangs down in festoons. Along the edge of grass, above the wall, are yellow crocuses, followed by daffodils.

The sunk garden is planted with a view to having an evergreen garden in winter, as well as a rose garden in summer. The evergreens will also form a pleasing background to the bright colours of the roses and other flowers in summer-time. The rose-beds have edging of clipped box, about 8 inches high. At one side is a summer house covered with Clematis montana on one side and ivy on the other and yellow jasmine, and behind is the dark hedge and a sloping bank with several evergreen trees, pine, holly, and spruce, and closely planted shrubs, mostly evergreen, such as cupressus, box, mahonia, holly, laurel, juniper, laurustinus, rhododendrons, daphne, cotoneaster, veronica, hypericum, etc. Among these are some flowering shrubs, such as broom (Cytisus) and mock-orange (Philadelphus), but only a few to lighten the bed in summer without leaving bare patches in winter. The background behind the seat is planted in a similar way, and also has the dark hedge behind it.

The flower-beds need not all be rose-beds if one or two are planted with irises; these will help in the winter garden. Lily-beds are also attractive in summer. If two green tubs are placed on each side of the steps, sweet bay trees could be planted in them with some ivy-leaved geranium round the base for summer flowering. If stone vases are used, some dwarf evergreen should be planted for winter, such as a dwarf rhododendron or dwarf cotoneaster, bearing scarlet berries, with strands of periwinkle or ivy hanging down.

The rockery is in the shade in the mornings, and the plants for summer flowering should be selected from the lists in Part IV. Many of these keep their foliage through

What Shall I Do with My Garden?

the winter, and, in addition to the rockery, may be made attractive at this time by planting ivy in one corner, several species of heaths—*e.g.*, *Erica darleyensis* and *E. carnea*. *Cotoneaster microphylla* spreads over the rocks, and has bright red berries in winter. Other evergreens that would be suitable for this rockery are Rose of Sharon (*Hypericum*), periwinkle, hart's tongue, and other ferns. Many of the mossy saxifrages seem to have brighter greens in winter than in summer; arabis, aubrietia, pinks and carnations also help to hide bare places. Bulbs of all kinds, as many as possible, are planted in the rockery and flower-beds to make the sunk garden bright in spring.

PLAN No. 4.

What Shall I Do with My Garden?

PLAN No. 4.

PARTICULARS.

Size.—Approximately 80 feet by 100 feet.

Aspect.—North-east and south-west.

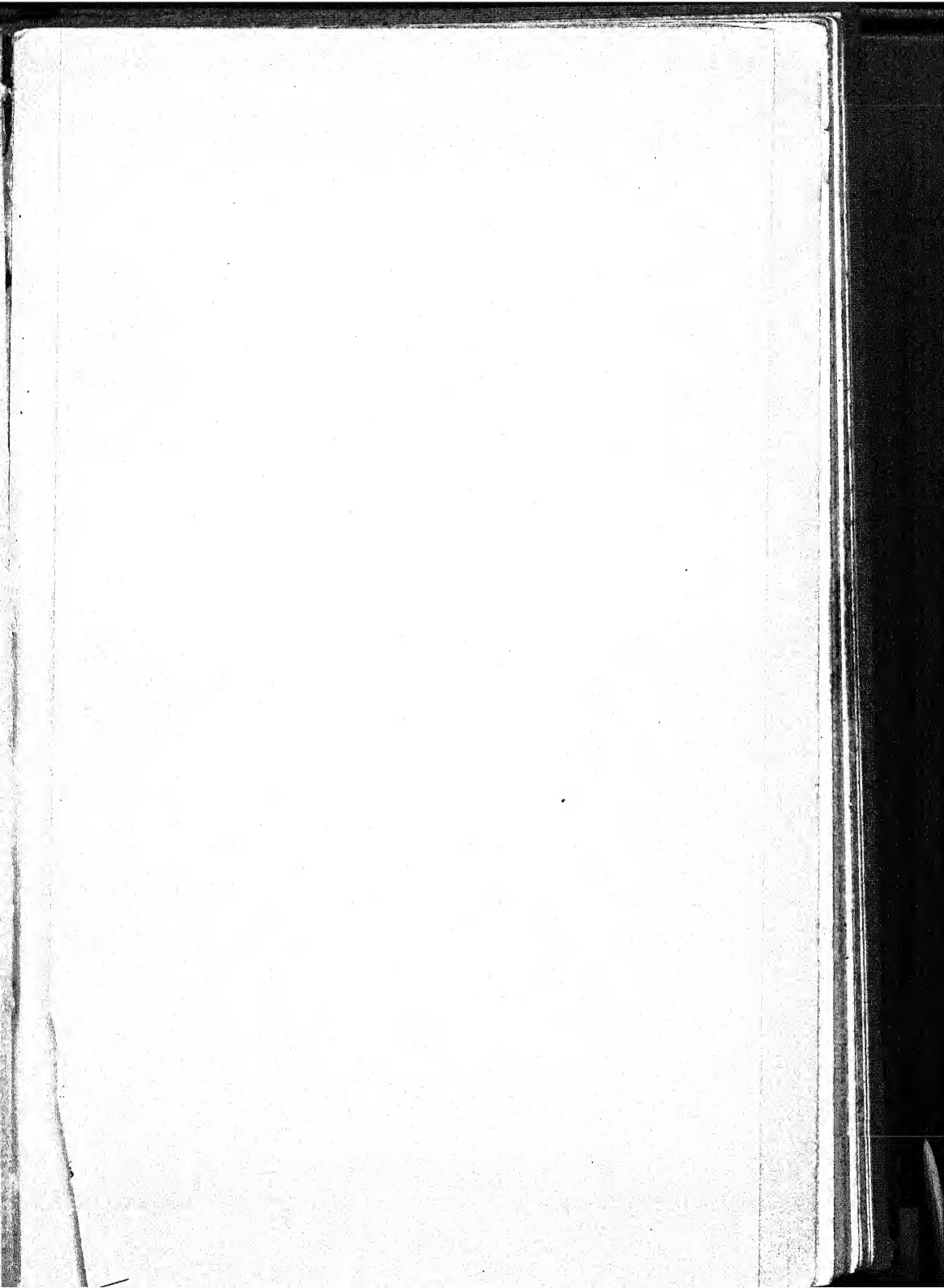
Surface.—Level.

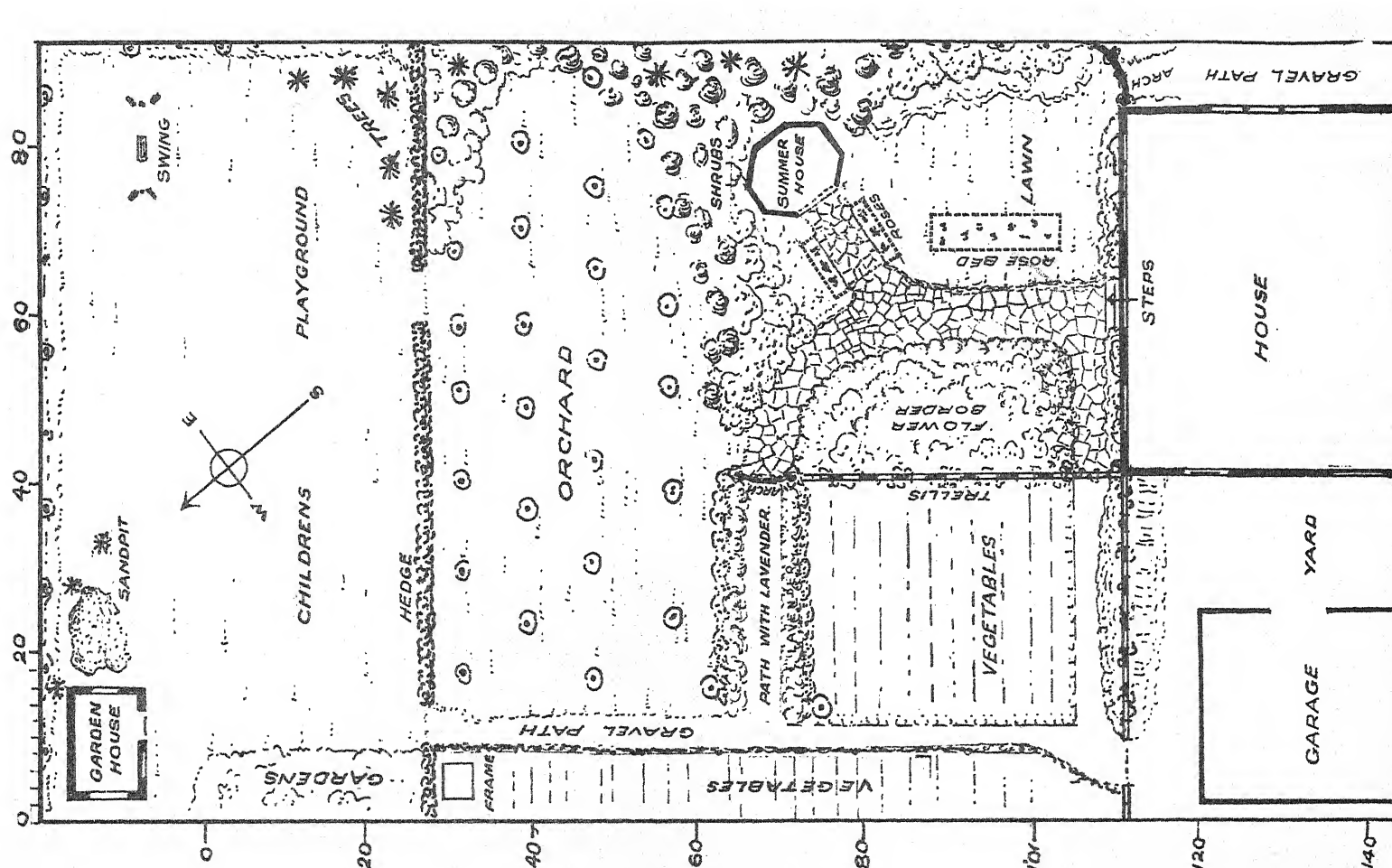
Features.—Fruit and vegetable quarters and children's playground.

There is very little room for the children in a small bungalow and its garden, but if it is in any way possible to keep a part of the garden entirely for them, where they can invent their own games and occupations without interference, they will soon learn to amuse themselves and be no trouble! Any sacrifice made to ensure this will be more than repaid by their appreciation.

In the plan here given about 25 feet of the garden has been separated for the children's use. This is grass, for children love grass, and a few trees give shade in the corners. On the fences are fruit trees. The children's own gardens are on the left, near their little wooden house. This has a door and windows.

The sand-pit is a great asset for very little children, and keeps them amused for hours. A swing is in the corner. On the grass there is room for cricket nets, clock golf, "kum-bak," etc., for the older children. The playground is separated from the orchard by a thick hedge of privet, yew, laurel, or box. A long gravel path for the children's use leads from the back door along behind the garage yard and down to their garden. On the left of this are small vegetables with box edging or parsley, and on the right is a broad patch of vegetables, terminating at the path edged with lavender, leading under an arch to a paved pathway in the grown-ups' corner. Here is a summer-house and a wide herbaceous border, a rose-bed, some shrubs, and a few ornamental trees are arranged in this part of the garden. A path leads to the front, and a rose-trellis shuts off the vegetable garden and yard where there is a herb bed. Under the windows are wallflowers and arabis, etc.





PLAN No. 4.

PARTICULARS.

Size.—Approximately 80 feet by 100 feet.

Aspect.—North-east and south-west.

Surface.—Level.

Features.—Fruit and vegetable quarters and children's playground.

PLAN No. 5.

What Shall I Do with My Garden?

PLAN No. 5.

PARTICULARS.

Size.—Approximately 50 feet by 70 feet.

Aspect.—North by south.

Surface.—Fairly level near the house; fall of 8 feet from middle of garden to end fence.

No vegetables.

In this plan about a quarter of the ground is given up to a rock-garden, which includes sunny and shady rock-banks, a damp wall for ferns, a pool, a marshy patch, and a stream. The plot is larger than the first three. No vegetables or fruit trees are included. In the rock-garden there will be room to consider individual rock-plants, not only "mass plants" that have so far been the only kinds mentioned in connection with the plans. The part near the house is bright with flowers, and a revolving summer-house could be put anywhere on the lawn, which is about 40 feet by 40 feet. A series of rounded or flat arches spans the pathway round to the front of the house, and pillar roses or standard roses (with violas round the base) outline a grass path which leads from the back door through the shrubs to the rubbish pit. If preferred, several small rose-beds could be put here instead of the row of single plants and following the same line. The scheme for planting the wide borders on each side of the lawn should be selected from Parts III. and V., and Part IV. should be read through in connection with the rock-garden.

The pool has been hollowed out where the garden falls with a steep bank and connected with the house water supply. Hard water from the main is not very good for plants, but they will thrive when it is mixed with the rain-water which collects in the pool. Unless the soil is a sticky clay it will be necessary to concrete the basin to within a few inches of

→ 68

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PLAN No. 5.

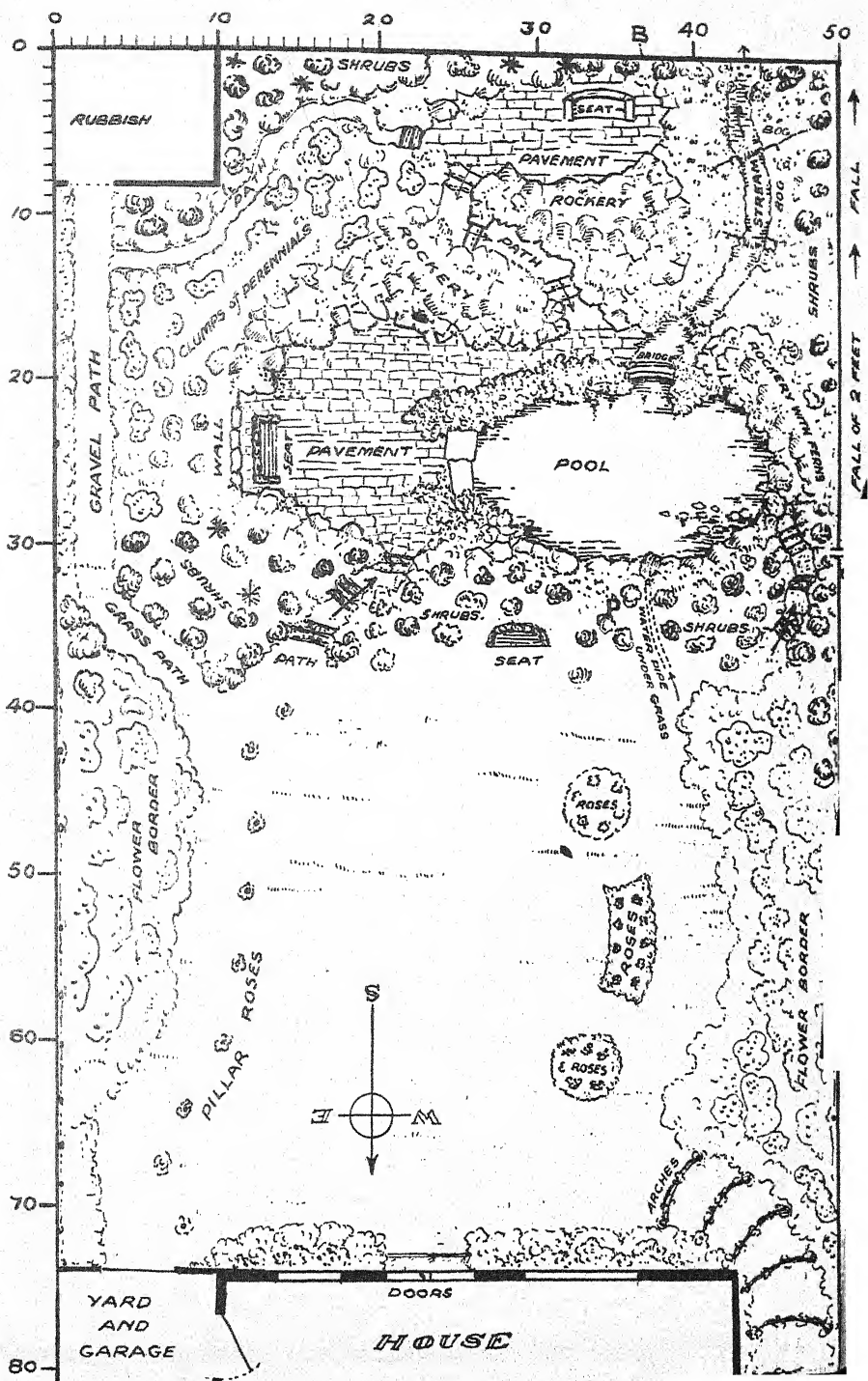
PARTICULARS.

Size.—Approximately 50 feet by 70 feet.

Aspect.—North by south.

Surface.—Fairly level near the house; fall of 8 feet from middle of garden to end fence.

No vegetables.





Plans for Gardens

the surface, and this will also be necessary in the bed of the stream if there is no clay.

The pool is a fairly large one, about 20 feet by 10 feet by 3 to 4 feet deep. Over the concrete or clay bottom a layer of soil is laid 6-8 inches deep. If the pond has been constructed with a ledge round the edge for plants which thrive near the margins of ponds, this should also have a covering of soil.

On the side of the pool near the house is a fall of 6 feet in the ground; if there is rock *in situ* this may be worked into the steep rock-bank, and in any case the bank must be held up with large blocks of rock to form a kind of crag. Over one of these the water enters the pool, forming a waterfall, but the supply should be regulated by a tap so that it is only a trickle. Water can be brought from the main in a pipe (P on plan) just under the grass, and then carefully hidden by rocks and rock-plants. The water might trickle over one rock on to a narrow ledge, and then down the face of another rock to the water below. If too much water is allowed to flow it will disturb the plants growing in the water.

Shrubs grow along the bank above the pool, and near the edge where the water flows over are irises, crane's bill (*Geranium palustre*), greater willow herb (*Epilobium*), and other riverside plants. A large clump of gunnera with its enormous leaves occurs at the corner near the paved terrace, on which seats can be placed. At this end two or three flat stones form the edge of the pool, but the rest of the brink is irregular and as natural as possible with irises, meadow sweet (*Spiraea ulmaria*), branched bur-reed (*Sparganium ramosum*), *Spiraea aruncus*; any species of scirpus and juncus; also the marsh horsetail (*Equisetum palustre*). Sweet flag (*Acorus calamus*) is another interesting waterside plant with iris-like foliage. Low-growing plants round the edge, near the little log-bridge, and along the sides of the stream, may include any of the following: Marsh marigold (*Caltha palustris*), pink cress (*Cardamine latifolia*), globe flower

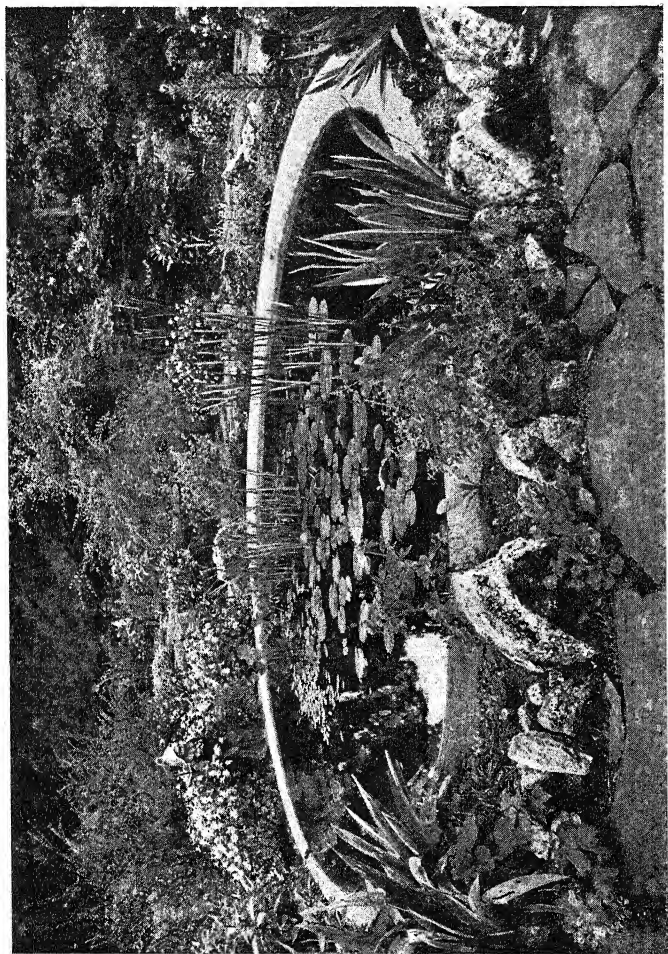
What Shall I Do with My Garden?

(*Trollius Europæus*), water forget-me-not (*Myosotis palustris*), yellow musk (*Mimulus luteus*), etc.; and among plants 18 inches to 3 feet in height are figwort (*Scrophularia nodosa*), yellow flag (*Iris foetidissima*), yellow loosestrife (*Lysimachia vulgaris*), purple loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria*), hemp agrimony (*Eupatorium purpureum*), water avens (*Geum rivale*), marsh potentilla (*Potentilla palustris*).

The stream is only a few inches deep, and flows over several miniature waterfalls made with rocks (W) (the fall from the pond to the fence in this case is about 2 feet). Here and there the water overflows its banks to keep the ground moist on either side. The bed of the stream is better made with clay than concrete, which looks unnatural. At the fence the water could run through a grating into a drain, or, if a sloping field occurs, soak into the ground.

On the left of the stream a bog has been formed by removing about a foot of soil, adding a few stones with clay bedding, then a layer of stones for drainage, some turfy soil, and then some fibrous peat. (N.B.—In my own garden I have native bog plants, brought from Dartmoor and Wales, growing quite successfully in a wooden box sunk into the ground, with a few stones for drainage, soil, and a little peat, and kept moist by the trickle from the tap in an old boiler filled by hand as required.) Bog plants are particularly interesting, and several of the natives of our peat lands are insectivorous. The peat soil is poor in nitrates necessary for plant food, and a few plants—*e.g.* sundews, butterworts, and bladderworts (aquatic), supplement their food supply by contrivances for trapping small flies and absorbing nourishment from them. This process may be watched if some sundews and butterworts are grown in a saucer and fed with tiny flies. In the case of the butterworts, the edges of the leaves roll over to entrap the fly, and in the sundews the leaves have sticky, sensitive hairs which bend over and so fix the fly on the leaf.

Some attractive bog-plants are helleborine (*Epipactis*



*The still pool
mirrors a myriad
changing scenes.*

Plans for Gardens

latifolia), spotted orchis (*Orchis maculata*), butterfly orchis (*Habenaria bifolia*), asphodel (*Narthecium ossifragum*), cranberry (*Vaccinium oxycoccus*), butterwort (*Pinguicula*, several species), sundew (*Drosera*, several species), bog heath (*Erica tetralix*), marsh violet (*Viola palustris*), bog-bean (*Menyanthes trifoliata*), marsh pennywort (*Hydrocotyle vulgaris*), cotton grass (*Eriophorum*, two species), bog pimpernel (*Anagallis tenella*), lady's slipper (*Cypripedium calceolus*), etc.

In the pond itself in the shallow parts are water violet (*Hottonia palustris*), arrowhead (*Sagittaria*), small water-lily (*Villarsia nymphæoides*), flowering rush (*Butomus umbellatus*), water plantain (*Alisma plantago*), frogbit (*Hydrocharis morsus ranæ*), etc.

In the deeper parts (3 feet) are the water-lily roots, usually planted in baskets with soil. Some of the usual kinds are common white water-lily (*Nymphæa alba*), yellow water-lily (*N. lutea*), pink (*N. Caroliniana*), red (escarboucle), orange (*N. aurora*), double white (*N. Richardsoni*), etc.

Some floating plants which do not root in the bottom are floating plantain (*Alisma natans*), water crowfoot (*Ranunculus aquatilis*), bladderwort (*Utricularia*), duckweed (*Lemna*), etc.

The right-hand end of the lily-pond is in the shade of the fence and also of the two willow trees planted here (see plan); a rock-wall holds up this bank, which is planted with hardy ferns (*Aspidium*, *Asplenium*, *Lastræa*, *Polypodium*, *Scolopendrium*, *Woodsia*, etc.). After a time these rocks will be green with mosses and liverworts. In the corner near the little path leading up to the lawn are some plants of the royal fern (*Osmunda Regalis*).

At the top of the bank above the alpine garden are flowering and evergreen shrubs (see Part VII.), especially rhododendrons if they flourish in the district. Among the shrubs are clumps of foxgloves, Solomon's seal, golden rod, michaelmas daisies, and montbretia. Along the edge of the drop to the pool are irises. Over some of the evergreen

What Shall I Do with My Garden?

shrubs *Clematis montana* and pink and white everlasting peas are allowed to ramble at will. A narrow path with log steps divides the shrubbery into two parts, and leads down to a paved terrace. On the left of the terrace is a rock-wall and raised bank, with clumps of perennials and a few shrubs.

The rock-work between the seats should be built with great care (see Part IV.) so that the more delicate alpine plants may succeed. The slopes are gentle to the south and steeper to the north, so as to form homes for the plants which love the sun and also for those that flourish better in partial shade (see lists in Part IV.). Dark evergreens—*e.g.*, yew, box, *laurostinus*—are in the corner to form a background for the rock-garden. If rhododendrons grow easily in the neighbourhood, these might fill up this space as far as the trees which shade the seat. Pines or mountain ash would fit in here, and their roots would not reach the rock-plants, but would be under the pavement and under the fence. The beds are for roses, or any plants chosen from Table III. These beds can be omitted if lawn is preferred, as the space would be large enough for clock-golf or “kum-bak” tennis.

PLAN No. 6.

What Shall I Do with My Garden?

PLAN No. 6.

PARTICULARS.

Size.—Approximately 80 feet by 120 feet.

Aspect.—East-south-east and west-north-west.

Surface.—Slope towards the house of about 4 feet in whole length.

Scheme includes vegetables.

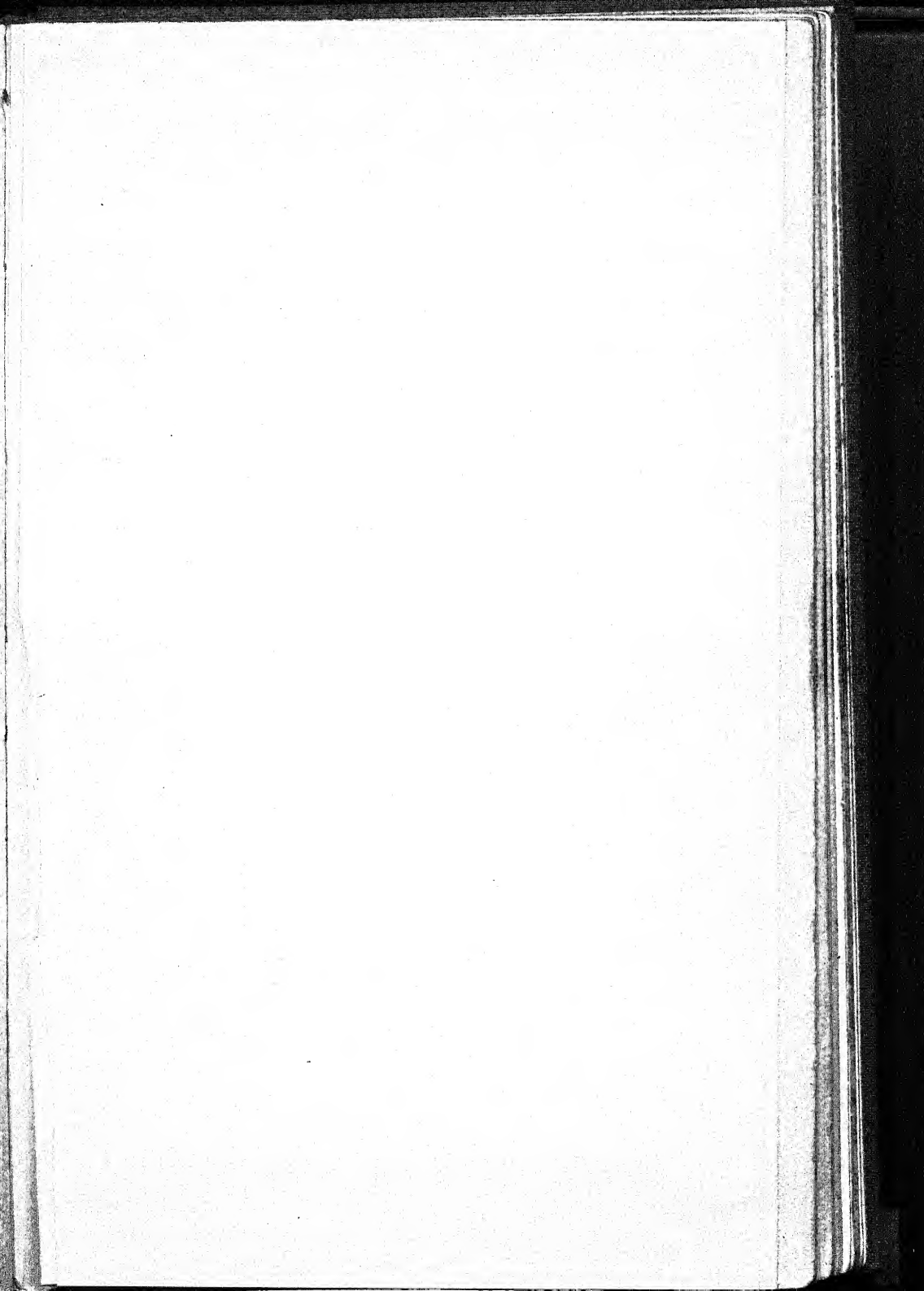
This plan represents a plot slightly larger than the foregoing five. It is large enough for a little of everything except potatoes.

The part for vegetables will have plenty of sunshine, especially the long bed on the left, which is suitable for most summer crops and for the forcing frames. The narrow border along by the clipped hedge of yew or *Cupressus macrocarpa* would be better as a nursery for seedlings, as it will not get the full force of the sun all day.

In the left-hand corner is a tool-shed, and there is room here for a rubbish heap if required, as the shed could be placed nearer to the rose-arch. Wide lavender hedges border the pathway leading to the grass terrace on the right.

At the back of the lavender against the fence are Jerusalem artichokes. The wide rectangular plot is for peas, beans, carrots, etc., and there should be room for a few gooseberry and currant bushes. Loganberries can be grown along the fence. The latter will do very well also on the shady side of the fence, when the sun warms the wood from the other side all day. A narrow path round the outside of the vegetables would be convenient for weeding, etc., and an edging or a few clumps of flowers along the side of the pathway will always give attraction to the vegetable garden.

A rose-trellis about 5-6 feet high divides the kitchen garden from the putting-lawn. Over this trellis are climbing roses, honeysuckle, jasmine, clematis, etc. (see "Climbing Plants," Part VI.). The end of the lawn is raised to form



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PLAN No. 6.

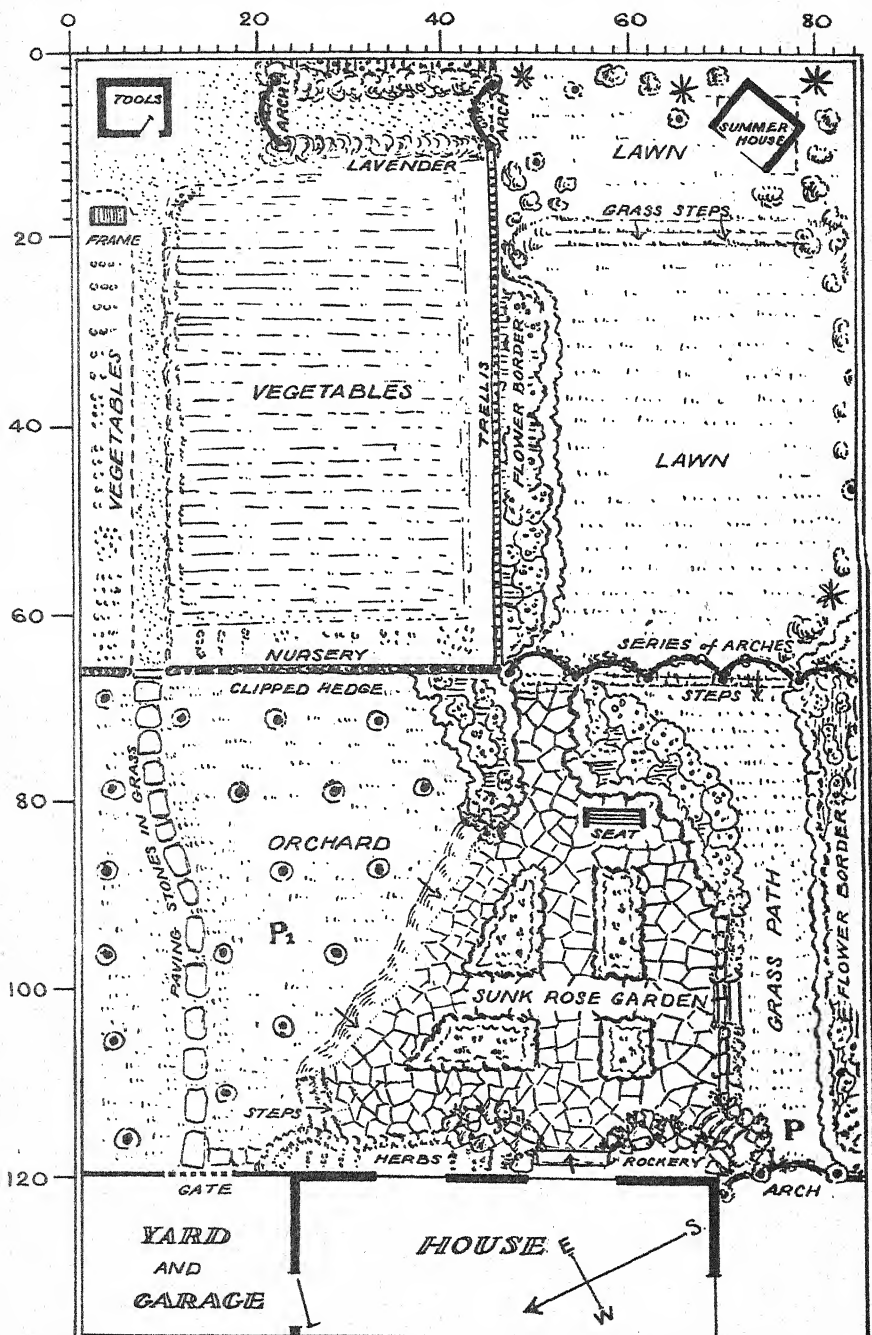
PARTICULARS.

Size.—Approximately 80 feet by 120 feet.

Aspect.—East-south-east and west-north-west.

Surface.—Slope towards the house of about 4 feet in
whole length.

Scheme includes vegetables.





Plans for Gardens

a terrace, upon which stands a revolving summer-house. Some flowering shrubs (see Part VII.) and perhaps a few fruiting and ornamental trees may also be accommodated.

The whole garden slopes slightly towards the house, so that the lawns should be kept level and a series of steps employed to correspond to the gradient. The vegetable garden may be left slightly sloping, and then the border along the rose-trellis will also slope towards the lawn. Trellis-work should be fixed along the top of the fence by

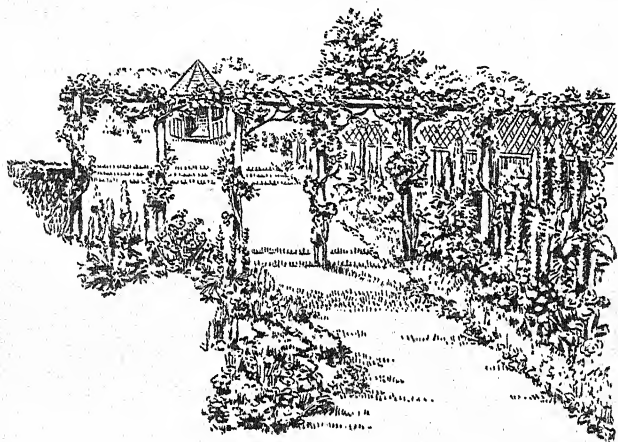


FIG. 7.—PERSPECTIVE VIEW IN GARDEN, PLAN NO. 6.

The features are described in accompanying text.

means of strong posts into the ground, affording support for roses or other climbers planted alongside. A few flowering shrubs may be put in here and there; the colour of these should be chosen to harmonize with the general colour schemes of the borders (see Part III.).

The long border by the trellis would look beautiful planted with lupins, delphiniums, and anchusa edged with forget-me-not, followed by mauve violas. The lupins would be out in June and the delphiniums would follow.

From the lawn grass steps lead under the arches to the

What Shall I Do with My Garden?

sunk rose-garden, which is paved either with crazy paving or with blocks, and there are a few rose-beds carpeted with pinks. The french window from the house opens into the paved garden, and the beds should be arranged and planted so that there is a view from the window through the arches to the other end of the garden. The flowering shrubs will form patches of colour in the distance.

To the left of the paving is the orchard with a sloping bank and a little bed for herbs, comprising parsley, thyme, mint, sage, etc., along the house wall. Thyme makes a very pretty edging to the herb border. In the orchard daffodils, crocuses, snowdrops, and any other bulbs should be planted in the autumn for spring flowering, as they will make an attractive picture from the windows when they are in flower among the grass before it has been cut.

A paved path leads from the yard door through the gap in the hedge, from which point a gravel path goes on to the tool-house; this path will slope, but it should not have steps, as the wheelbarrow and the roller must travel along it. There should be a seat or two somewhere in the sunk garden, although stone steps are very useful for this purpose. Two wide borders with tall plants come between the rose arches and the pavement, and the one on the right hand ends with a low stone wall with rock plants (see Part IV.) and a little rock-work close to the house.

The steps lead up to a grass walk extending from the front of the house, and there is a border about 6 feet wide against the fence. This border should be planted with careful attention to the colour scheme (see Part III.), as it will form the entrance to the garden, and a view from here (point P on plan) will include the whole length of the garden.

(For climbing plants for the summer-house, tool-shed, fence, etc., see Part V.)

PLAN No. 7.

What Shall I Do with My Garden?

PLAN No. 7.

PARTICULARS.

Size.—35 feet by 90 feet.

Aspect.—West-south-west and east-north-east.

Surface.—Almost level; slight slope from right to left.

Vegetables included.

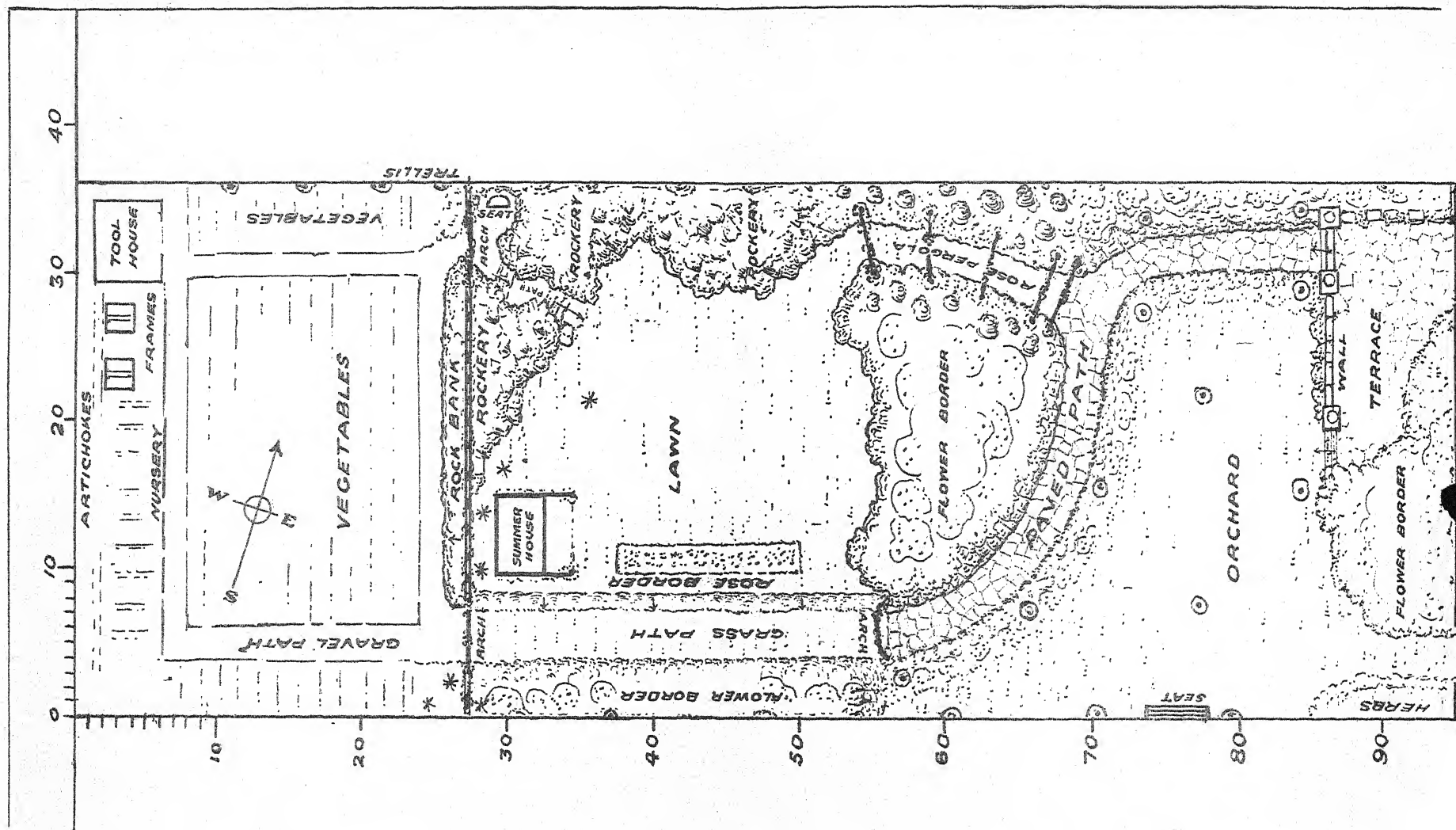
This garden is very long in proportion to the width, so the first aim must be to divide it in such a manner that the length is broken. This is conveniently done by a complete trellis for climbing plants across the entire width. Two openings occur in this, which are arched over. Beyond this are the quarters for vegetables and fruit, very similar to Plan No. 6. At the foot of the trellis on the kitchen garden side is a wide edging of snow-in-summer (*Cerastium*). This makes a pleasing contrast to the ramblers, etc., on the trellis. The door or french window opens on to a small paved terrace. The border on the right is held up at the end of the terrace by a shallow wall about 18 inches (see Plan No. 3). The terrace is only about 6 inches above the lawn, and a shallow step leads down. Between these is a low upright wall, with large stone vases for plants. In front of this is a narrow bed with Canterbury bells in pink and blue to show over the top of the wall.

Any other kind of flowers which grow to a height of 2 to 3 feet might be chosen from the list in Part III.

To the left is a wide irregular mixed flower border. The steps on the right lead to a paved path bordered with flowers, which curves round the grass plot with fruit trees. It is too small to be called an orchard. Fruit trees are trained along the left-hand wall and climbers along the right. There is a seat against the fence on the left. Unfortunately these trees are on the shady side of the garden, but they will get late afternoon sun.

The lawn has been made level and a grass bank slopes





PLAN No. 7.

PARTICULARS.

Size.—35 feet by 90 feet.

Aspect.—West-south-west and east-north-east.

Surface.—Almost level; slight slope from right to left.

Vegetables included.

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down to a grass path, with a border about 5 feet wide against the fence. There is a summer-house on the lawn and a long rose-bed on the left. On the right is a rockery, and through this is a winding path with steps up and through into the kitchen garden. A pergola leads from the paved path to the lawn, and on each side of the grass path under the pergola is a bed of white lilies (*Lilium candidum*). The wide border is blue (see Part III.), and its edging creeps over the pavement on one side or the grass on the other. This plot is a very awkward shape, but if planned in this way would appear to be more in proportion. The neighbours on each side are shut out by a trellis screen on the top of the fence.



PLAN No. 8.

What Shall I Do with My Garden?

PLAN No. 8.

PARTICULARS.

Size.—60 feet by 80 feet.

Aspect.—North-east and south-west.

Surface.—Sloping from the house to the top right-hand corner by the gate, with a fall of about 6 feet, and also from the orchard on the left slightly towards the right-hand fence. At the fence at the end of the garden the hillside slopes steeply to the coombe below.

A few vegetables required.

This is a plan of the author's own garden. Previous to June, 1927, the former occupant had devoted almost the whole plot to potatoes and other vegetables on the original slope of the land. The gravel paths were laid, the fruit trees planted, and the trellis across the end was fairly well covered with rambler roses. At E a heap of stones had been left by the builder, and this was covered with well-established rock plants, and these have been included in the new rockery, which otherwise would not have been made so close to the house. In November, 1927, the sunk grass path was made by cutting out the soil and wheeling it to build up the level for the lawn. A labourer helped with the levelling and making the grass steps.

The next task was to build up the two walls about 18 inches high on each side of the path (see section C-D) with stones collected from the other parts of the garden where they had been left by the builders, afterwards making the stone steps down to the path. The left-hand wall continues round as far as the arches, and on the right as far as the end of the first grass level.

At first the little summer-house, which was roughly made with materials obtained by pulling down an old shed, was



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in a line with the border where the steps are in the plan. When the summer of 1928 came it was dull looking at the fence, so the structure was removed bodily to its present position on the plan, which has a beautiful view across the valley, and is more private from the neighbours.

All the small stones, of which there are many in this district—for it is on limestone and the soil is very thin—were used to make up the level for the lawn. A break was made in the existing trellis to open up a view from the conservatory door across the valley.

at the end of the garden, but with constant cutting and The turf for the paths was only rough grass from the field rolling is now quite good. I always cut the central part of the path, and leave a fringe of longer grass at the foot of each wall. The grass steps are made with a board to hold the turf up. At P there was a post with a beautiful honeysuckle plant growing thickly, and this was left and included in a series of arches, which divide the higher lawn from the wide grass steps and levels on the right. Near the fence was a bank with a few ferns, and this is now a rockery for ferns and wild plants, including pink campion, bluebells, foxgloves, primroses, and snowdrops. After this paving was laid and the rockery near the house was finished. The bird-bath is an old boiler slightly sunk and surrounded by rocks arranged as naturally as possible. The paths took three loads of broken paving stones which were set in fine soil, and now (1929) have saxifrages, alyssum, thyme, forget-me-not, etc., thriving in the crevices.

By the spring of 1928 the borders were ready for completion of planting; some of this had been carried out during the autumn of 1927—*i.e.*, bulbs in the little orchard and rockery and all the roses and perennials.

The wall which holds up the long border on the right-hand side is covered with aubrietia, saxifrages, London pride, etc., and the border is planted with white madonna lilies, delphiniums in various shades, and two or three clumps of

What Shall I Do with My Garden?

Oriental poppies. Loganberries climb over the fence from D as far as the last arch. At the end near the house a trellis about 2 feet in height runs along the top of the fence to form a screen, and on this grow several climbing roses: Alberic Barbier, crimson rambler, American Pillar, blush rambler, Dorothy Perkins. The border on the left of the grass pathway is planted with pink polyantha roses carpeted with forget-me-nots, to be followed by violas and mignonette; the wall is covered by Ceraſtium (snow-in-summer) and white arabis. At the back of this bed are two rows of raspberries which were already there. On each side of the central path are edgings of rocks, with clumps of double arabis, thrift, and forget-me-nots. Behind these is a definite wide row of pink and red carnations, followed by two rows of rose trees of the "bush" type.

A rose-trellis shuts off the tradesman's entrance from the rockery. There are some fruit trees near the edge of the vegetable patch, and between these are wallflowers in the spring, followed by eschscholtzia or cornflowers. The edging is a wide border of snow-in-summer, which has grown from a few little pieces broken off from a clump and planted in the spring of 1928. There are plum and pear trees trained along the wooden fence, which is 5 feet 6 inches high. A narrow border with michaelmas daisies and giant white daisies runs in front of the fruit trees. Below the latter are daffodils and crocuses close to the edge of the grass.

At the far end of the little orchard is a border for annuals, backed by Jerusalem artichokes, to hide the rubbish. The small corner borders on each side of the summer-house are raised about 18 inches above the level of the lawn and are held up by rock-work with aubrietia. Clumps of montbretia are planted in the left-hand corner bed and lupins and irises in the right-hand bed.

The narrow bed at the end of the lawn has forget-me-nots (deep blue ones) with Siberian wallflowers, followed by

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eschscholtzia or marigolds. Over the arches are Japanese honeysuckle, white rambler, crimson rambler, and Dorothy Perkins roses. These climb over the back and top of the summer-house to the short length of trellis beyond it. In this way the small lawn is almost completely screened from the neighbouring gardens, and is a pleasant spot for meals, or leisure hours when there are any.

The long series of arches at the right-hand end of the lawn was put up in the autumn of 1928, and they are not yet covered at this end. The corner at P is very attractive, as there is a bushy English honeysuckle, intermingled with a fine everlasting white pea and some white jasmine. Round the base are pink soapwort (*Saponaria officinalis*) and red valerian (*Centranthus ruber*). The rambler rose I planted at this end of the steps has not done very well. It was originally growing over the side of the garage, and was moved too late in the season, when winter weather came before it was well established.

The nursery-bed is used for cuttings and for trying seeds of unfamiliar annuals. The long rustic trellis forms a thick rose hedge. In front of this is a narrow bed with hollyhocks to tone in colour with the various roses, sweet-williams, antirrhinums, phlox, and an edging of white pinks. This rose hedge was here when the house was bought, and beyond the hedge is a rock-bank, which was quite bare at the time, but is now covered with saxifrage and snow-in-summer.

At the end of the path is an old log-seat embedded in ferns, saxifrage, and pink campion; and against the fence in the corner are delphiniums to give a blue distance to the view from the conservatory. The corner to the left of the gate has night-scented stock, backed by evening primroses. This year (summer, 1929) the blooms on the rambler roses have been particularly fine, forty to fifty blooms on nearly all the clusters, and they made a wonderful show in July and early August, in spite of the dry weather.

Mention must be made of a little herb-bed with mint,

What Shall I Do with My Garden?

parsley, thyme, marjoram just opposite the door to the kitchen.

It may be of some service to include a little about the garden in front of the house, although it was not laid out until November, 1929. Before this it had an asphalt path to the gate, grass, and one or two flower-beds. The plan for it was made some time ago, but had to wait for time to carry it out.

Working out this scheme took nearly a week with the help of an able worker. On each side of the broad paved path is a grass plot, and round the fences are raised beds about 2 feet wide, held up by rock walls. This gives the impression of a sunk garden. The border, too, by the right-hand fence is planted with a few shrubs—box, copper plum, Japanese spiræa, laburnum, and spruce in the corner. Beneath these is a carpet of snow-in-summer, which will soon cover the wall in festoons, and through this carpet bulbs will come up thickly in spring—daffodils, grape hyacinths, narcissi, etc. There are also bulbs in the grass along the foot of the house wall and in the borders on each side of the gate, which are carpeted with various shades of aubrietia and planted with yellow wallflower, followed by antirrhinums.

A wooden fence encloses the front, and close to this is a laurel hedge, which was there in the previous occupant's time. On either side of the gate is a viburnum bush, which has masses of white flowers in summer, followed by brilliant crimson foliage in autumn.

In the large tubs by the front door are laurustinus bushes, which began flowering in November. The smaller tubs have golden privet (two), *M. cupressus macrocarpa* (two), viburnum (two).

Between the gate and the drive to the garage is a bed of yellow tree lupins, with bulbs. On the far side of the drive is a wide bed with flowering shrubs and trees: Two poplars, four Scotch pines, two plum trees, and purple buddleia,

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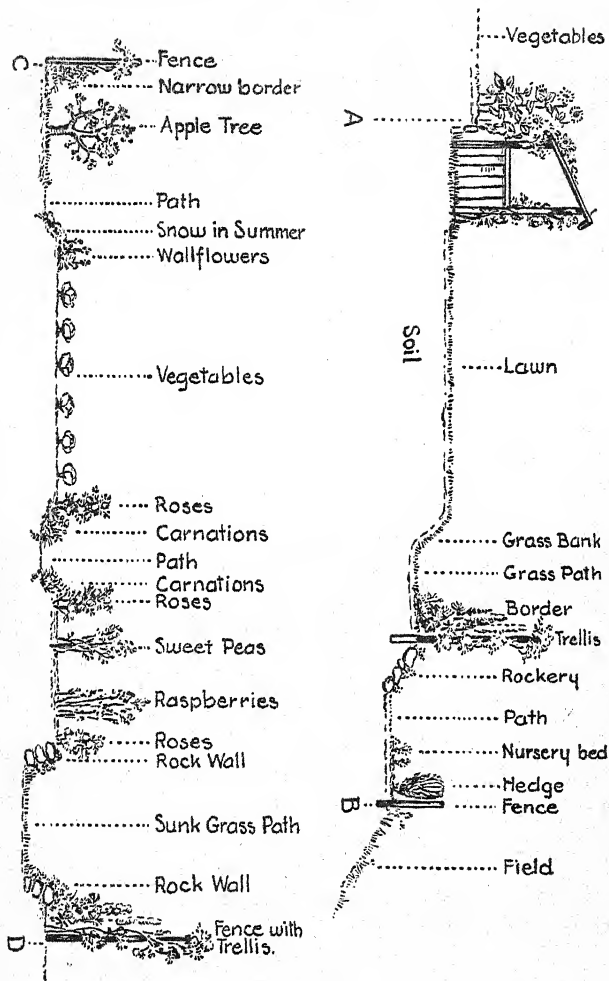


FIG. 8.—SECTIONAL DIAGRAMS SHOWING RELATIVE DISTANCE AND HEIGHT OF THE GARDEN OCCUPANTS.

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spiræa, weigela, hypericum, box, brooms, and other shrubs. In between the shrubs are foxgloves (self-sown), bluebells (wild), clumps of pink Japanese anemone, and near the garage end a carpet of white and purple violets. Most of the shrubs were planted when the house was built, and also the wide lavender hedge close to the house (see plan).

PLAN No. 9.

What Shall I Do with My Garden?

PLAN No. 9.

PARTICULARS.

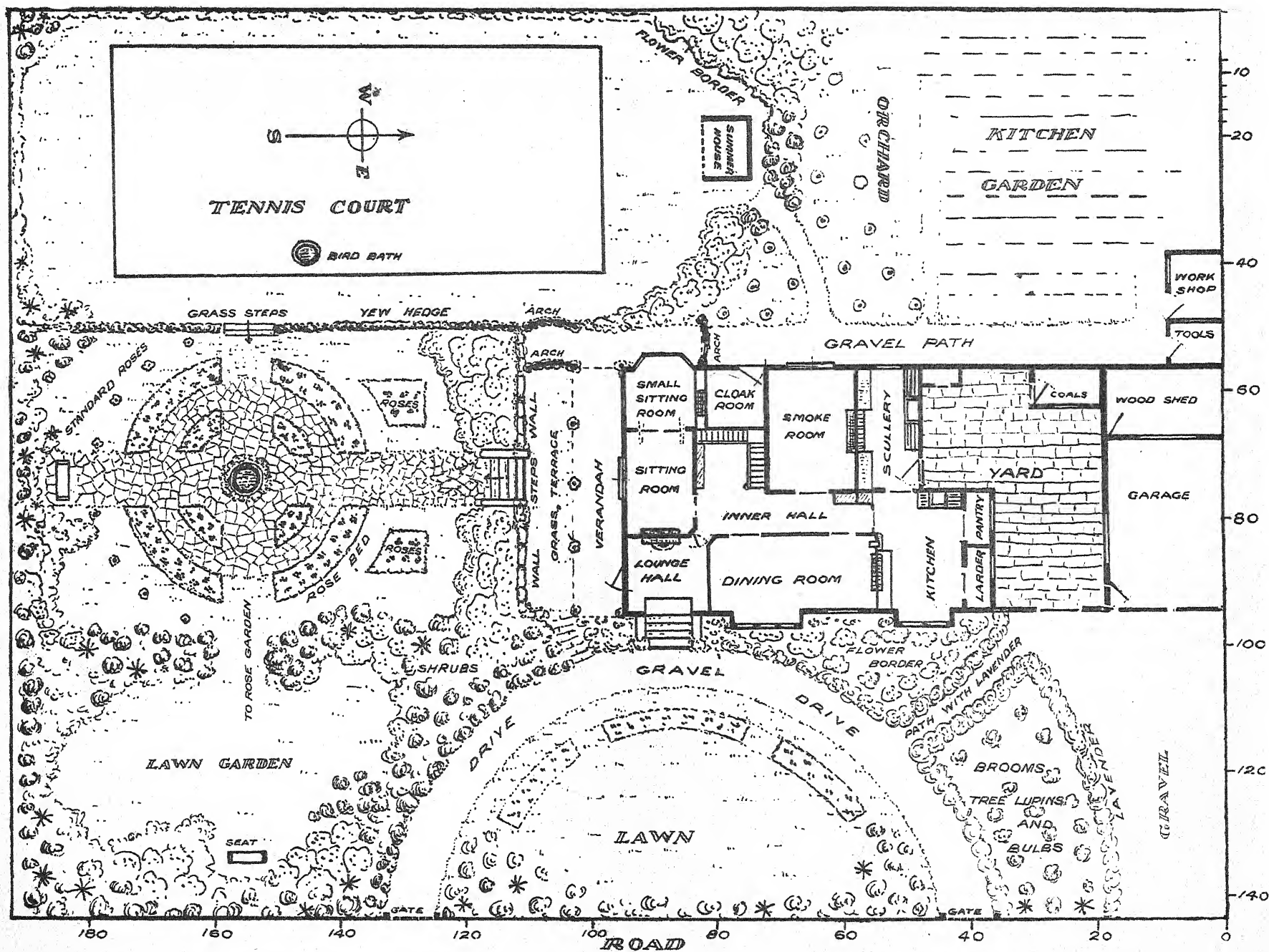
Size.—Approximately 180 feet by 140 feet; a double plot.

Aspect.—East and west.

Surface.—Sloping slightly towards the road.

No. 9 is a much larger plot of land with a larger house. The garden is laid out in a modern, more or less formal, style. In front is a car-drive, with lawn, shrubs, and rose-beds. A wide gravel space leads from the garage gate to the garage, and the border is edged with lavender hedges. Inside the hedges are brooms and yellow tree lupins, with mauve veronica bushes and buddleia. The border under the windows has wallflower and forget-me-not edging, to be followed by Chinese delphiniums edged with pink or lemon yellow antirrhinums. In the corners at the back of the border are one or two lilac bushes and hollyhocks. On each side of the steps are bushes of flowering currant (*Ribes*), white broom (*Cytisus albus*), *laurustinus*, and *syringa* (see Part VII.). Trained against the house are yellow jasmine, *Pyrus japonica*, *wistaria*, and *Gloire-de-Dijon* rose, etc.

On the left of the gate are trees and shrubs forming a screen; patches of shade-loving plants (Part III.) occur among these, and inside is a lawn garden arranged informally with clumps of herbaceous plants and rock plants among choice shrubs. Through the gap in the shrubs is a grass walk into the rose garden, with a low bird-bath set in rocks in the centre. The beds need not all be of roses. Some could be lilies, irises, peonies, etc. The rose-beds are more attractive carpeted with some low-growing plants, and these do not injure the rose roots—*e.g.*, pansies, thyme, stonecrops, gentians, rockfoils, carnations, bulbs, etc. Some good roses for general beds are *Caroline Testout*, *H. E. Richardson*, *La France*, *Frau Karl Druski*, *Madame Butterfly*, *Fragrance*, *Ulrich Brunner*, *K. of K.*, *Independence Day*, etc. Many of



PLAN No. 9.

PARTICULARS.

Size.—Approximately 180 feet by 140 feet; a double plot.

Aspect.—East and west.

Surface.—Sloping slightly towards the road.



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the above are fragrant. The old-fashioned moss rose should not be forgotten, and one bed might be devoted to dwarf polyantha varieties—*e.g.*, Alice Amos, Else Poulsen, Orleans, etc.—and another to some China roses.

There are endless varieties of irises that will grow in dry beds—Dutch, English, Spanish, etc.—but the large flat Japanese irises thrive better near water. The flowering shrubs continue behind the seat, on each side of which are clumps of peonies with aubrietia or white pinks.

From the rose-garden steps lead upwards to the grass terrace in front of the verandah. A wall about 3 or 4 feet borders the terrace, and against this are all shades of delphiniums with some suitable edging—*e.g.*, pinks or carnations. On the wall is *Ampelopsis veitchii*. The posts of the verandah have climbing roses.

Along the west side of the rose-garden is a high yew hedge with a gap. Later on, when the hedge is 6 or 8 feet high, an arch can be made with the yew. Grass steps lead up to the tennis court, with climbers on the fences, one or two trees for shade, a summer-house, and tall herbaceous plants to form a screen from the orchard and kitchen garden. In the latter is a well-lighted workshop and a tool-house. A gate by the bay window cuts off the kitchen garden.

The house is worth a glance. The front door opens into a large square lounge-hall, with fireplace for logs, and a glass door on to the verandah. No doors to sitting-rooms open from this to let in cold draughts in winter, but a corner archway with door or curtains leads into the inner hall. From this, which is lighted from above, to the left, a door opens into a large sitting-room with south french windows looking over the rose-garden. This is connected by folding doors with a smaller sitting-room, with a south window to rose-garden and a west bay window to tennis court and orchard. Bookshelves line the walls of this room on each side of the fireplace. Under the stairs is an arch, and under this a door leading to the cloak-room, which also has

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a door to the garden. On the left wall is a large cupboard for tennis racquets, golf clubs, etc. Next to the cloak-room is another sitting-room used as a library or study, with a french window into the kitchen garden. Near the door is another large cupboard. The long dining-room has an east square bay window, a small window, and a serving hatch through to kitchen. The kitchen has a large range, a square bay window to the front, a larder and store-room, with north aspect looking to the yard, and a china and glass pantry, with small sink (h. and c.), for washing these, near at hand. The scullery opens into the yard, has a gas-cooker, shelves and cupboards from floor to ceiling on the left for saucepans, dishes, etc., a sink with two draining-boards, and h. and c. water and plate-rack in front of the window. Across the yard are the coal-shed and storehouse for wood, etc., behind the garage. A door from the yard leads to the kitchen garden.

PLAN No. 10.

What Shall I Do with My Garden?

PLAN No. 10.

PARTICULARS.

Size.—About $\frac{1}{2}$ acre.

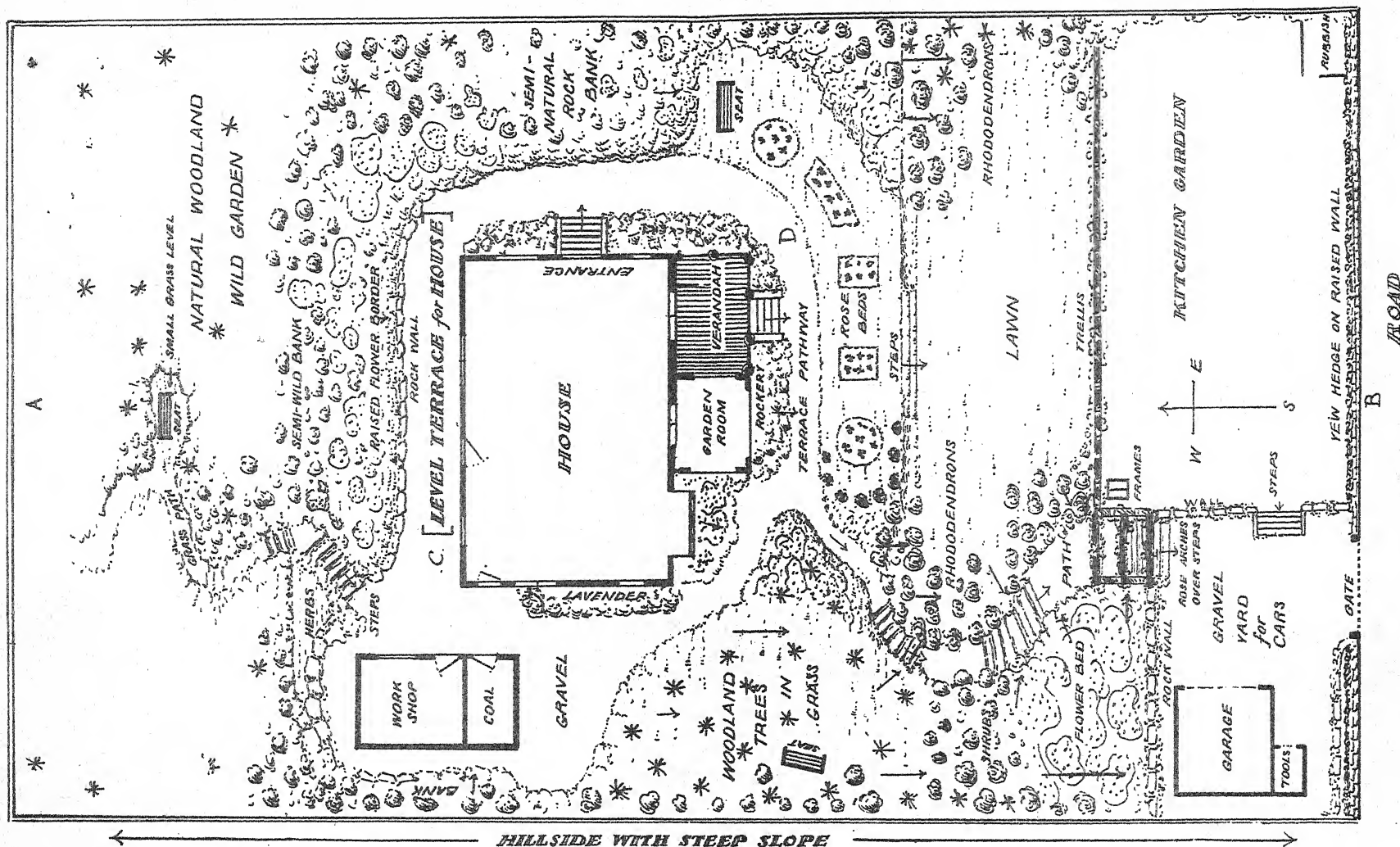
Aspect.—North and south.

Surface.—Rough wooded hillside, partly levelled to form terrace upon which the house is built (see section).

This plan is not drawn to scale, but is roughly 20 feet to the inch. It is suitable for one of the lonely sites on the slopes of wooded hills, which are being sold for building plots in many districts. Sometimes a part of the woodland is left and included in the garden, but many people, on the other hand, cut down all the trees, remove all the wild plants, and thus ruin what might have been an attractive natural garden. In the present case the house is built on a level terrace (CD), which has been cut out of the slope. The house itself is raised on a foundation about 2 feet 6 inches, and on this sloping rock-banks have been constructed which reach down to the level pathways.

The house faces due south, but the entrance is at the side, as there is a garden room in the front, opening into a verandah. In front of the latter are posts with climbing roses and clematis or any other climbers (see Part VI.). A wide lavender hedge runs under the kitchen window, while in the corner in front of the sitting-room window there is a border of lupins and delphiniums edged with forget-me-nots.

From the road the gate opens into a garage yard, which has been cut out and levelled, as this is the only possible level place for the car to stand. To the right is a wall with steps leading to the kitchen garden, and facing the gate are steps with rose arches; to the left the bed has a retaining wall with rock-plants (see Part IV.), and above this is a flower-bed. A trellis with climbing plants divides the kitchen garden from the lawn. From the arches the path leads upwards with steps at intervals. On the left of the



PLAN No. 10.

PARTICULARS.

Size.—About $\frac{1}{2}$ acre.

Aspect.—North and south.

Surface.—Rough wooded hillside, partly levelled to form terrace upon which the house is built (see section).



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path the ground slopes downwards (see arrows in plan) and also slightly towards the pathway.

Higher up than the flower-bed are flowering and ever-green shrubs, and beyond this the woodland trees have been left in the grass, but all the bushes and undergrowth have been removed. Among the grass in early spring are winter aconites, crocuses, snowdrops, daffodils, bluebells, and white narcissi which have been naturalized. There is a seat under the trees, and behind this some shrubs to shut out the neighbouring garden. Groups of foxgloves, Solomon's seal, periwinkle, columbine, and larkspur are planted here and there near the hedge. On the projecting corner to the left of the pathway are some brightly coloured annuals. To the right is a level lawn planted with groups of rhododendrons in varying shades (see plan) and some pine trees near the right-hand fence. This lawn is separated from the terrace above by a grass bank and steps. On the terrace are formal rose-beds and some standard roses. On the right of the terrace is a lily border (*L. candidum*, *L. auratum*, *L. speciosum*, *L. pardalinum*, etc.), with edging of pinks and violas, which ramble over the grass. Behind the lilies are a few shrubs against the fence to form a background. At this point the bank rises steeply and a wall has been built behind the seat (see plan). This wall is planted in front with rock-plants (see Part IV.), and behind are heather and bracken, gorse, broom, hawthorn—*i.e.*, the wild heathland plants—with a few trees such as silver birch, pine, hazel, guelder rose, holly, mountain ash, etc.

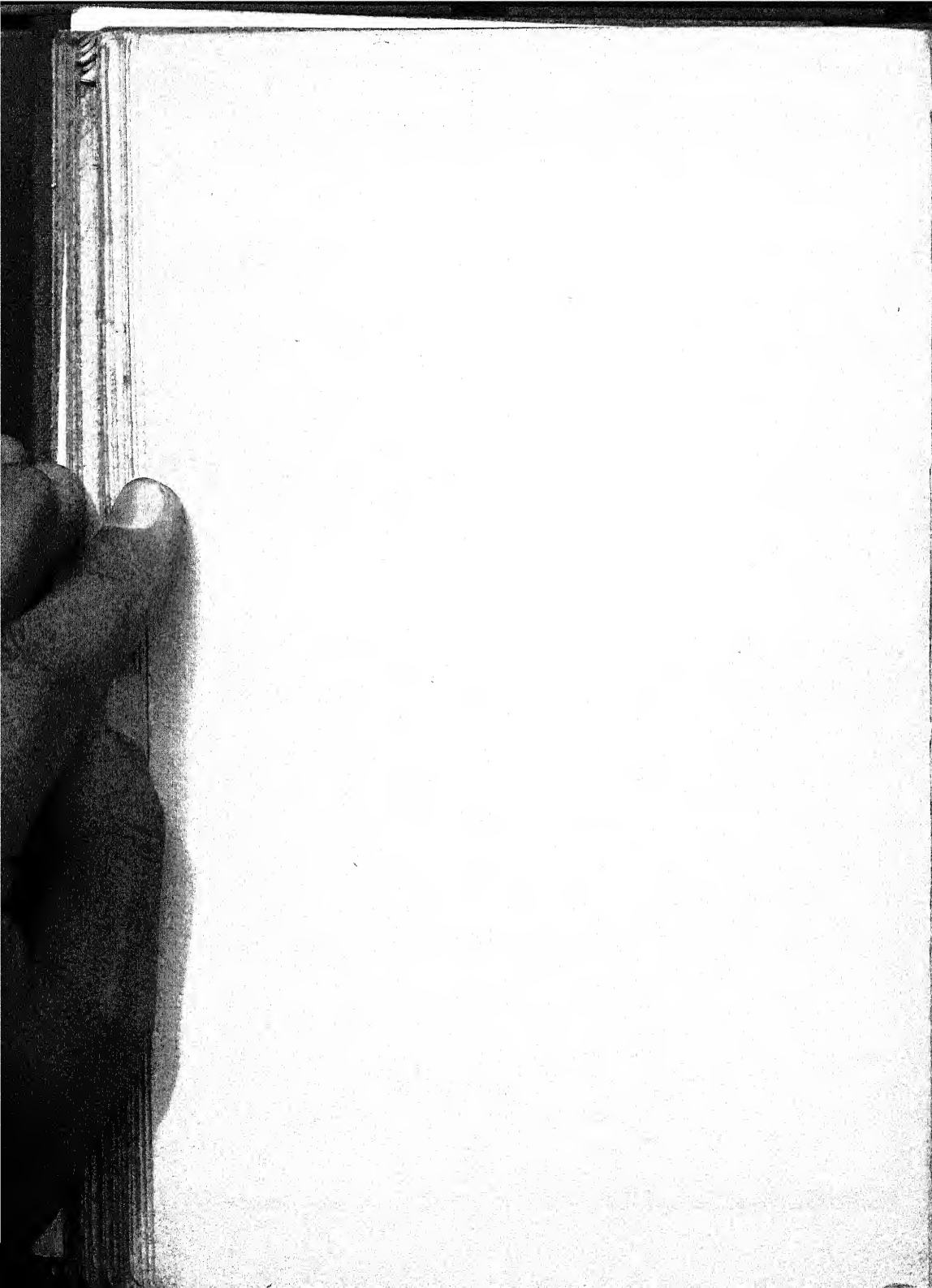
The wall with rock-plants extends behind the house, but here is a raised flower border of perennials which merges into the woodland alone. Among the bushes in the front of the wood a few clumps of plants that will grow in the shade have been introduced. Everywhere are primrose roots and bluebells, and as many bulbs as possible have been planted among the grass and bracken. Cheaper bulbs can be bought for naturalizing, and these can be left in the

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ground to spread year after year. Snowdrops do particularly well if once they get started in some wild corner, and also the smaller types of daffodils.

Some clumps of rhododendrons occur and brighten the hillside in early summer and many purple foxgloves, and also the white and spotted kinds grown from seed. A winding pathway leads up to a seat, from which there is a beautiful view of the surrounding country. To the left of this is a little herb patch and the corner in which the out-houses are situated.

PART III
GENERAL NOTES



PART III

GENERAL NOTES

AFTER the positions of the borders have been planned, the preparation of the soil depends largely upon the locality. As a general rule, hardy plants thrive better if there is plenty of drainage below the surface. Heavy clay may be improved by digging in a mixture of sand and leaf mould. It is not the purpose of this book to go fully into the question of the cultivation of plants and preparation of borders, but to consider their planning and planting.

Many people think that a garden, to be beautiful, must be tidily arranged, with all the plants at equal distances and soil showing between them, but a more natural method of planting gives far more beautiful effects. Probably the stiff and regular type of arrangement of borders originated in the past in the formal planting of the beds in public gardens and the gardens of large houses. Fortunately this "artificial gardening" is rapidly disappearing now that herbaceous borders, rock-gardens, etc., are so popular; the plants in the latter refuse to be kept tidy, but spread about and run into and over each other in a way never tolerated in the case of calceolarias, asters, scarlet geraniums, lobelias, etc. Even in small gardens we may now find a wild corner where hardy plants are left to grow at will.

Grouping of plants is taking the place of dotting them singly. There are fewer different kinds of flowers in a border, but more of them, and the spaces between the taller plants are carpeted with some low-growing species. In old-

What Shall I Do with My Garden?

fashioned and long-established gardens, where there are plenty of trees and shrubs to form a background, flowers of all colours may be jumbled together in the borders and yet form a wonderfully gay and attractive picture, but in new gardens, often devoid of any but newly planted trees and shrubs, the flowers are so obvious that great care should be taken to ensure harmony of colour, both in the separate borders and in the garden as a whole.

COLOUR COMBINATIONS.

There are now so many different types of plants with flowers of any particular colour, from the tallest in the herbaceous border to the tiniest in the rockeries, that there is no lack of material for carrying out any attempted colour-scheme. The colour chart may help in this choice. Diagrams, somewhat similar to this one, may be found in any artists' book on colour or in books on house decoration, and it is interesting to apply the same idea to the choice of colours for the garden. The colours in the diagram, taken in twos and threes, harmonize together, and may safely be worked into the same flower-bed.

The colours exactly opposite each other are complementary colour (e.g., No. 3 and No. 9 blue and orange) and are safe contrasts. Flowers hardly ever correspond exactly to the terms of a diagram, but graduate from one shade to another, so only a few are included which seem to fall naturally into their allotted spaces, but if the diagram is taken into a garden many more examples of each colour may be discovered, and it will prove a fascinating occupation for a spare half-hour. Floral colouring, in general, is lighter and softer in tone than any printer's representations. Small borders, entirely of the same shade of colour or of one kind of flower, are often successful in the general colour-scheme.

Annuals and biennials lend themselves particularly well

General Notes

to this kind of treatment, as the colour scheme can easily be changed each season.

There are endless combinations of colour that might be

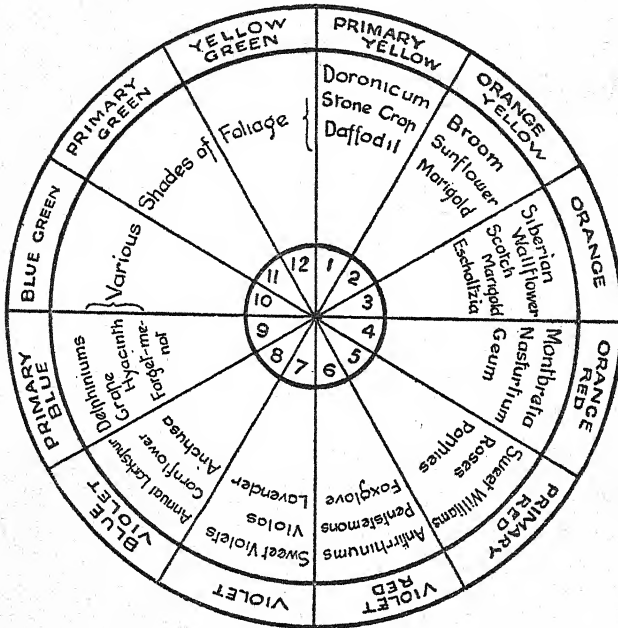


FIG. 9.—DIAGRAM OF COLOUR CHART.

chosen for herbaceous borders and rockeries; as an example, one combination (blues and mauves) is taken and treated in detail. It will be seen from the diagram that the shades Nos. 7, 8, and 9 are harmonizing colours. Other harmonies are Nos. 1, 2, and 3, 2 and 3, or 5 and 6. Favourite contrasts with many are mauve and yellow, pink with mauve, and orange with blue.

What Shall I Do with My Garden?

A BLUE AND MAUVE BORDER.

The first intention was to keep to blues only, but before beginning to write the blue flowers in the author's garden were compared with the diagram, only to find that very few could be placed in the "primary" Blue Section (No. 9), and nearly all merged into Blue Violet (No. 8). Even *Anchusa Italica* and cornflower, which had always seemed true blue, appeared to have a slightly purple tinge. Blue is always a coveted colour for flowers, possibly because, in England, we have so few wild blue flowers in masses after the bluebells are over. Yellow, white, and scarlet fields and banks or pink and white hedgerows are plentifully seen, but the only blue fields locally are of viper's bugloss, and sometimes banks are blue with dog violets. The following are some native blue flowers, but these do not occur as a rule in sufficient abundance to give colour to the landscape: Chicory, forget-me-not, brooklime, tufted vetch, the three kinds of scabious, speedwells, periwinkle, gentians (rare), violets, harebells, campanulas, borage, scilla, and occasionally grape hyacinth, cornflower, and blue pimpernel. Plants with blue flowers seem to flourish better in chalk and limestone districts.

In Switzerland blue flowers are far more abundant in the hedges, mountain pastures, and rock crannies. The deep blue monkshood is almost as common as foxgloves with us, and there are many gentians of all shades of blue and mauve: wild larkspurs, columbines, rampions, veronicas, anemones, scilla, alpine clematis, Jacob's ladder, etc.

The plants included in the border are mostly well known and easy to cultivate. Gardening books and catalogues give long lists of Latin names, which probably mean little to the general reader. It is a good plan to make a new border with familiar plants to begin with. After the first year or two, when the garden is getting settled down, one can add others and make any alterations that seem desirable. In planting, it is a good thing to have one or two clumps of

General Notes

high and medium plants (see table) running close up to the front to break the regular gradation from high to low, and

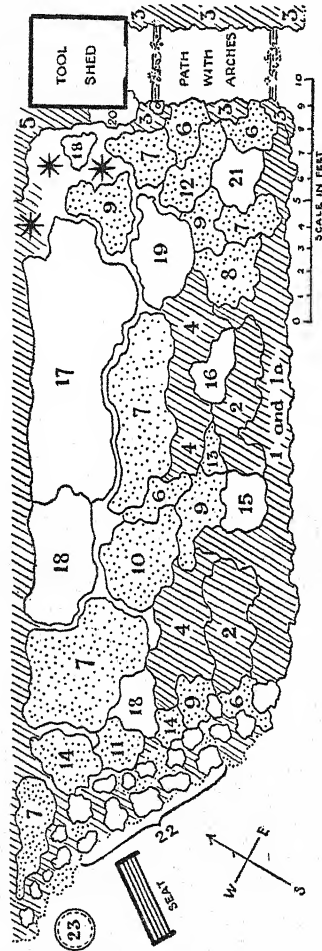


FIG. 10.—DIAGRAM OF BLUE AND MAUVE BORDER.

low-growing plants may run up between the higher clumps even to the back, forming a carpet to the bed, so that there are no bare patches of earth. In the plan of the border

What Shall I Do with My Garden?

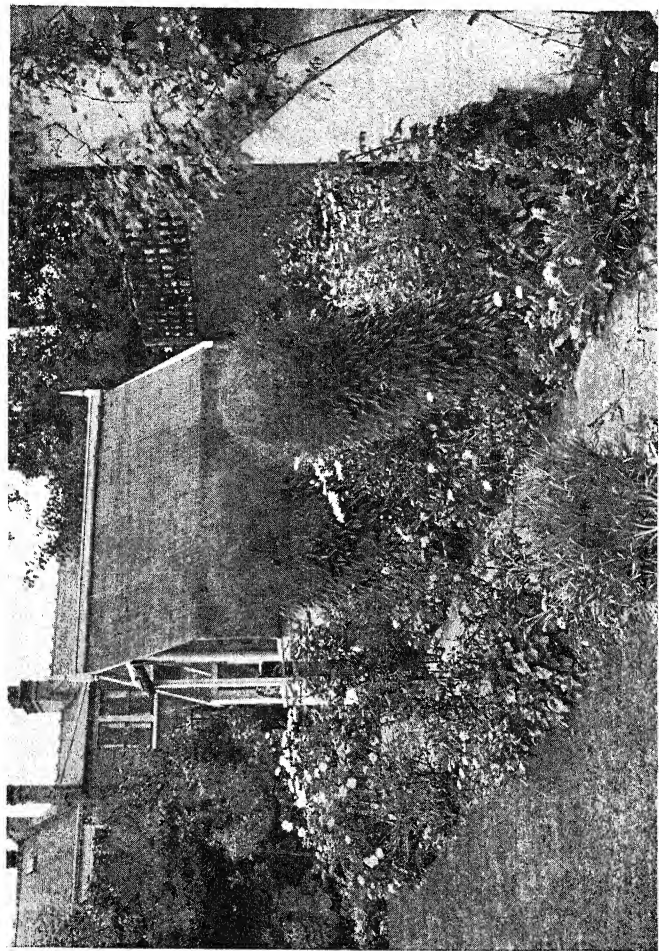
illustrated a few rocks are worked in at the end near the seat so as to include some of the lovely little blue alpines. The variously shaded parts of the diagram show the flowers that would be in bloom in early summer (May and June), middle summer (July), and late summer and autumn (August, September, October). Annuals in groups are sown between the tall perennials, as these can be pulled up in the autumn, when the bed is made ready for winter. Bulbs of hyacinths and crocuses are planted in any empty space. In early spring the rockery (No. 22) at the end is bright with blue primrose, blue crocuses (Purple King and Heavenly Blue), scilla, grape hyacinth (Muscari), *Anemone apennina*, glory of the snow (*Chionodoxa*), periwinkles, etc. *Iris pumila* flowers early and *Iris stylosa* all the winter.

In early summer the forget-me-not (1) will be out before the stems of the other plants grow up, so that this can be planted between some of the clumps as well as along the edge. *Aubrietia* (No. 3) soon follows (var. Blue King, Dr. Mules, H. Marshall, Studland). Irises (No. 2) seem to do well in town gardens, and there are many beautiful blue, purple, and mauve kinds. The tall bearded or flag irises are the earliest (May and June)—e.g., *I. Alcazar*, bluish-purple; *I. Siberica*, china blue, etc. One of the best for colour is the old-fashioned deep purple blue *Iris germanica*.

Lupins (No. 4) are in flower with the irises and make a good background for them. There are two very large clumps of the usual deep blue type lupins, as *polyphyllus*, and a plant or two of *L. p.* var. *Eureka*, pale-blue. At this time the beautiful sprays of *wistaria* (No. 5) cover the side of the tool-shed and extend along the fence.

A bright blue flower which is not often seen is *Anchusa myosotidiflora*. The plant comes from the Caucasian mountains, and blooms in April. It is very similar to our forget-me-not, but has deeper blue flowers and the coarse foliage of the *anchusas*.

The border is at its best in July. At this time the



*The greenhouse
plays a definite
part in the skilful
garden plan.*

General Notes

delphiniums (No. 7) are in bloom, and there are many lovely shades of these. *D. belladonna* in the original sky-blue is one of the most beautiful. There are many very attractive hybrid delphiniums of various shades and many varieties of the belladonna class—*e.g.*, *Lamartine*, *Mrs. Brunton*, etc. The Chinese larkspur (*Delphinium chinensis*) is a deep and striking blue, and very light and pretty in its method of growth.

Cornflowers (8) are well-known annuals of a bright blue colour, and easily grown from seed sown early in March or in the previous summer. Self-sown seedlings of cornflower and love-in-a-mist (*Nigella*) always seem to be stronger, and to flower earlier, than those sown in the current year. No. 9, the two most popular types of alkanet, are *Anchusa italica*, a deep-blue, and *A. opal*, a sky-blue. No. 10, Canterbury bells (*Campanula medium*), are biennials (flowering in their second year), although occasionally they go on from year to year. The single or double blue will give a long flowering period if the dead flowers are cut off. No. 11, *Pulmonaria* (lungwort), grows about 1 foot high, the flowers being deep-blue, *P. angustifolia azurea*.

No. 12 is a clump of madonna lilies. These do not really belong to a "blue bed," but they form such a lovely contrast to the rambling roses on the arch, and the delphiniums (No. 7) round them, that there is some excuse for their presence.

No. 13, *Galega* or goat's rue, is a kind of bush-vetch. It has pretty mauve (or white) flowers, but the plant soon gets withered-looking, although it blooms on until September.

No. 14 is *campanula*. There are many of these to choose from, but *C. pyramidalis*, *C. latifolia*, and *C. persicifolia* are good tall forms, and *C. carpatica*, *C. muralis*, and *C. pumila* for growing among the rocks at the end of the border, as these are dwarf forms ranging from 6 to 12 inches.

Violas are planted out after the forget-me-nots are over, such as *Amy Barr* (dark mauve), *Admiration* (blue), *Maggie Mott* (mauve), *Black Knight* (very dark), *Purple Queen*, etc.

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No. 22. In the rockery at this time the campanulas mentioned above would be out, also the columbine (*Aquilegia cærulea*), gentians (*G. acaulis* and *G. nivalis*), *Viola gracilis*, *Linaria alpina* (the mauve toadflax), and *Lithospermum prostratum*, Heavenly Blue.

Towards the end of the summer the July blooming plants will still be lingering on with a few blooms if the dead flowers have been continually removed, and the love-in-a-mist (No. 15) coming out to form a patch of bright colour. No. 19, the annual larkspurs, are in flower at the same time; and the purple clematis (*C. Jackmanni*) (No. 20) on the shed is a striking feature together with the agapanthus lilies or blue hydrangea in the tubs (N.B. These must be placed under cover during the winter). The Japanese anemone (*A. japonica*) (No. 16) is a rather pinkish purple, but brightens up the border when the other flowers are nearly over. The violas in front are still flourishing at this time.

No. 21, monkshood (*Aconitum napellus*), forms rich blue spikes of flowers in August; and the michaelmas daisies (No. 17)—Heather Glow, Glory of Colwall, Royal Blue, etc.—flower from the end of August to October, when one begins to think about the changes and additions for the border of the following year.

It is quite impossible to describe all the various schemes for herbaceous and other borders, but some help may be gained from the table showing the colour, heights, time of flowering, etc., of a number of plants. This list is not intended to be in any way complete, and readers may miss some special favourite, but it is always possible to make one's own lists and to note down any plans or planting schemes that have been especially admired in any other garden. There are some flowers which seem to form particularly pleasing combinations and contrasts in small borders, or in neighbouring clumps in a larger border, so I have included a few of these.

1. Varying shades of delphiniums against an old wall,

General Notes

dark fence, or below a high stone terrace; in front of these mauve catmint (*Nepeta*) or lavender and mauve violas. (2) *Doronicum* (leopard's bane) and honesty, with an edging of mossy saxifrage. (3) Siberian wallflower, with a carpet of blue forget-me-not. (4) Yellow wallflower or daffodils, with carpet of shades of purple aubrietia. (5) *Narcissi* or daffodils, with a carpet of blue crocus. (6) Pink tulips, with a carpet of forget-me-not or mauve viola. (7) Dark red wallflower, double white arabis, and deep blue forget-me-not. (8) Blue lupins, Oriental poppies, and *Anchusa* opal. (9) Sweet-scented yellow tree-lupin, yellow broom, background of *Prunus pissardi* (red-brown foliage), and carpet of snow-in-summer. (10) Pink polyantha roses, carpet of mauve viola. (11) Michaelmas daisies, with montbretia or gladiolas or dahlias. (12) Spotted white foxgloves and ferns and red campion against a dark fence. (13) Lemon-yellow antirrhinums, with deep orange English marigolds. (14) Pink antirrhinums in front of mauve michaelmas daisy or scabious. (15) Tea roses and carnations. (16) Rambler roses, hollyhocks (various shades), and clumps of large white daisies. (17) Bulbs everywhere, especially in rockery, orchard, or among shrubs—*e.g.*, daffodils, snowdrops, crocuses, narcissus—are beautiful growing in grass, but out of place in rows, as they are often grown. (18) *Bartonia aurea* (Barton's flower), with blue cornflower, etc.

In beds devoted to one flower only one may have Canterbury bells, godetias, summer-flowering stocks in all shades, statice (mauve, yellow, and white), *schizanthus* or *salpiglossis*. Among choice perennials are peonies in many lovely shades, irises of all kinds, and so on through an endless list. The tall nasturtium should not be despised, for in colour and form its leaves and flowers far exceed in beauty many plants requiring more careful cultivation. These flowers will brighten any bare bank or climb over a trellis in conjunction with canary creeper (*Tropæolum Canariensis*).

If possible there should be a nursery-bed in every garden,

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where the seeds of perennials may be sown during the summer ready for planting out the following year, and where all extras may be stored when there is no room for them in existing borders.

TABLE OF FLOWERS ACCORDING TO COLOUR, ETC.

This section consists of a table which shows the plants arranged into divisions according to colour shades; each division is again separated as far as possible into three parts, including tall plants (3-6 feet), medium (1-3 feet), and dwarf and rockery plants (3-12 inches). In the columns after the names are letters showing the duration (*i.e.* annual, biennial or perennial, a few are half-hardy annuals), the time of flowering, and in another column is the usual height. The list does not include the earliest spring flowers, many of which are yellow. Winter aconites (*Eranthis hiemalis*), crocuses, and yellow jasmine appear while winter is still with us. These are followed by primroses, polyanthus, yellow wallflowers, and all the different kinds of daffodils, and in March the crown imperial lily (*Fritillaria imperialis*). Blue flowers of early spring are blue crocus, scilla, grape hyacinth, bluebells, hyacinth, hepatica, anemone, blue primrose. White flowers are narcissus, white crocus, snowdrops, etc.; and some pink and red early spring flowers are thrift, wallflower, silene, polyanthus, etc.

SOME SWEET-SCENTED FLOWERS.

Sweet scents give almost as much pleasure as beautiful colours in a garden, especially when we come upon them suddenly, or they blow in through the open windows; hence this short list of fragrant flowers:

Madonna lily (perennial bulb), honeysuckle (climber), night-scented stock (annual from seed), evening primrose (biennial), white tobacco plant (half-hardy annual), roses,

General Notes

sweet briar, thyme (perennial herb), jasmine (climber), rosemary (shrubby herb), lavender (shrub), sweet peas (annual), mignonette (annual), violets (perennial), lily of the valley (perennial), old-fashioned pinks (e.g. Mrs. Sinkins) (perennial), tree-lupins (perennial), gorse (perennial shrub), lilac (perennial shrub), syringa (perennial shrub).

PLANTS FOR SHADY CORNERS.

Every garden cannot have an entirely sunny aspect, and there will always be some shady corners. Of the plants mentioned in the foregoing lists, the following will grow in the shade :

Foxgloves, ferns of all kinds, primroses, violets, lily of the valley, wood anemones, crown imperial lily, Solomon's seal, Japanese anemone, columbines, auriculas, leopard's bane (*Doronicum*), day lilies, hellebores, periwinkle, globe flower, wood sorrels, many irises, winter heliotrope, plantain lily (*Funkia*), alpine anemone, perennial candytuft, moon daisies, etc.

N.B.—Flame flower (*Tropæolum speciosum*) will flourish on a shady north wall.

PART IV

ROCKERIES AND ROCK WALLS

PART IV

ROCKERIES AND ROCK WALLS

ALPINE PLANTS IN GENERAL.

ALMOST every garden is made more attractive by the construction of rock-work in which small plants can find a home. It is customary to refer to the plants generally planted in rock-gardens as "alpines," but this does not necessarily imply that they are native only of mountainous regions, but that the natural conditions in which they thrive is in rock crannies, ledges, or stony drifts and scree, etc. In many of these places there is, apparently, neither moisture nor soil, but the roots penetrate deeply into the cracks often to a distance of several feet, and so they are protected from excessive heat in summer and cold in winter. A great many of the alpine plants described in any good alpine flora occur also in parts of the British Isles—*i.e.*, among the mountains of Scotland, Ireland, Wales and the Lake District, in cliffs, quarries, old walls, old ruins, and countless other places. In their native mountain homes the period of active life of these little plants during each season is very short. During the winter months they are dormant under a covering of snow, and very often this does not melt until May or June, and the plant must produce leaves, flowers, fruit, and seeds before the early autumn snows begin (sometimes in September) and they will again be covered up for a long period of rest.

A great many alpines grow wild in England; they cannot, however, be found by flying along country roads in a car, but we see them when rambling along cliffs, making explorations in old quarries and the more or less inaccessible spots

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on mountain-sides. Many people regard all wild flowers as weeds, and do not recognize a little stonecrop growing in an old wall as one which, very probably, they have ordered from their nurseryman and planted in their garden. It is interesting to realize that the collections of rock-plants offered in catalogues are not all strangers, and that many of them are just as much natives of our own country as of the Alps.

A few of the best-known native British rock-plants are the following:

Yellow fumitory (*Corydalis lutea*), vernal whitlow grass (*Draba verna*), yellow rock-rose (*Helianthemum vulgare*), *Dianthus cæsius* and other pinks, alpine campion (*Lychnis alpina*), London pride (*Saxifraga umbrosa*), yellow mountain saxifrage (*S. azoides*), meadow saxifrage (*S. granulata*), mossy saxifrage (*S. hypnoides*), rose-root (*Sedum Rhodiola*), white stonecrop (*S. album*), live-long (*S. telephium*), English stonecrop (*S. anglicum*), biting stonecrop (*S. acre*), yellow stonecrop (*S. reflexum*), wall pennywort (*Cotyledon umbilicus*), common house-leek (*Sempervivum tectorum*), ivy-leaved campanula (*C. hederacea*), Dartmoor.

Many bushy plants with berries that are grown on rockeries are native—*e.g.*, bilberry (*Vaccinium Myrtillus*), cowberry (*V. Vitis Idæa*), cranberry (on moist ground, near water) (*V. Oxycoccus*), bearberry (*V. Arctostaphylos*), and the cloudberry (*Rubus chamæmorus*).

It would occupy too much space to name all the wild alpenes, but a few more are particularly interesting and rare, occurring locally—*e.g.*, spring gentian (*Gentiana verna*), field gentian (*G. campestre*), and occasionally snow gentian (*G. nivalis*), moss campion (*Silene acaulis*), and grass of Parnassus (*Parnassia palustre*). The latter is abundant in bog-land in some parts of the country. Many alpine members of the Daisy Order (*Compositæ*) occur also in Britain, but edelweiss, which also belongs to this order, is truly alpine.

Rock-plants are adapted for growing close to the ground

Rockeries and Rock Walls

in order to withstand the cold winds at high altitudes, where taller plants would be cut to pieces. For this reason many of them are creeping and spread over the rock, forming brightly coloured carpets and cushions. These plants can generally be increased simply by breaking off pieces from the parent clump, and planting them in a suitable pocket or crevice.

CONSTRUCTION OF A ROCKERY.

For those who wish to make a rockery in a new garden, and have not previously had time to study the subject, a short account of the construction of one may be of some use.

Choice of Rock.—After having chosen the site for the



FIG. II.—A SHALLOW MOUND, BADLY FINISHED.

Pieces of rock are standing on end at more or less regular intervals, presenting an artificial appearance and failing to secure the legitimate benefit that should accrue from rock.

rockery the next consideration is the question of the material to be used in building it. If the rock of the district is a suitable limestone or sandstone, it is better to use this, as it will fit in more naturally with any exposures in the landscape, and also save the expense of transport by rail.

Sometimes one is lucky enough to have a cliff of chalk, sandstone, limestone, or slate in the garden, which may be adapted into a most successful rock-garden; but this is exceptional, and most people have to make the best of an artificial structure.

After a year or so it hardly matters what the rocks or stones are, for the plants will have spread so thickly over the surface that there is little left in view. The oolite

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limestone of the south-west and carboniferous limestone give very satisfactory results, judging from the rock-gardens of Dorset, Somerset, and Gloucester; but many people prefer sandstone, which is a soft reddish colour and crumbles and weakens to give the plants more "hold." Artificial slag, clinkers, and flint should be avoided if possible.

A geological map of a new district is always a great help.

PLANNING THE ROCKERY.

Roughly plan the rockery according to the aspect and the space available, making a sketch if possible. It is an

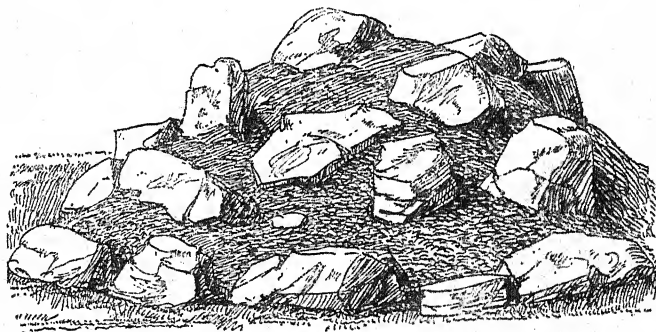


FIG. 12.—BADLY USED STONE.

The slabs simply laid upon the surface will form a harbour for insect pests and fail entirely to benefit roots of plants.

advantage to select a situation in the open, as most of the plants do not thrive in the shade, and the roots of trees, if growing near, exhaust the soil. If some part must be in the shade ferns and some other plants will thrive in it (for list see Part III.).

In Plan No. 5 about half the garden is set apart for a rock-garden, so that a fairly elaborate scheme can be followed.

Rockeries and Rock Walls

In planning the rockery it is better, as a rule, not to include water in the scheme unless a natural stream occurs, but if it is particularly desired it should be introduced as naturally as possible by means of a pipe hidden under rocks and vegetation. In Plan No. 5 I have described the construction of a pool of this type. Bare so-called lily-ponds look out of place in small gardens.

Pathways may lead through even small rockeries, but these should be winding and uneven with rough stone steps without cement (see Plan 5 and Part V.).

BUILDING THE MOUND.

The plants must always have plenty of drainage beneath the stones and a free passage for their roots, as these extend far inwards and so help the plant in very hot, dry weather when evaporation is rapid, or during extreme cold when the surface moisture is all frozen. At the base of the mound, therefore, should be broken bricks or rock-chips, followed by soil with which some sand has been mixed.

ARRANGEMENT OF THE ROCKS.

Having finished the mound, arrange rocks to form the kind of rockery mentally pictured, fixing the stones firmly and with more than half their bulk buried. The rocks should slope inwards and downwards, so that all possible moisture will run to the roots. Rockeries look more natural with gentle inclines unless one steep slope is introduced, and should be low in proportion to the area covered.

Some of the hardy plants can be put in with the soil between the rocks while the rockery is being made, as they will soon take root and be protected from excessive evaporation by the surrounding stones.

When the rocks are fixed see that all the pockets and

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crevices are well filled with soil, as it is important that no air spaces should occur round the roots, or the plants will quickly wither and die. In nature the cracks are filled



FIG. 13.—A WELL-CONSTRUCTED ROCK-GARDEN WITH WINDING PATHWAY.

The rocks are skilfully stratified and ledges well clothed with choice plants.

with grit and soil, the waste of ages, as the surface is slowly weathered—*i.e.*, broken up by frost, changes of temperature, wind, rain, etc.

Rockerics and Rock Walls

PLANTING THE ROCKERY.

All types of small plants may be grown in a rockery—mosses, ferns, bulbs, dwarf shrubs, creeping plants, stone-crops, orchids, etc.—often without any special trouble, and rare delicate specimens with a little extra attention to their home. Some people love their rockeries for the masses of colour obtained by planting quite easily grown plants—*e.g.*, aubrietia in various shades, arabis, double and single, alyssum, armeria, etc.—which quickly spread and form carpets, while others take delight in every individual plant, its history, its likes and dislikes; for the latter nurserymen will provide a countless variety, or, in some cases, they may be grown from seed. On the whole groups of alpine give better results than single plants. In a small space clumps of a few kinds are better than many different kinds. The surface should be nearly covered, only a few rocks showing, after the plants have begun to spread. A corner can always be reserved for special treasures; if the rockery is at first planted with the better-known kinds, after two or three years these can be removed to some border, and their places taken by rarer species.

SOME PLANTS FOR THE ROCK-GARDEN.

For sunny positions.

Aubrietias. Crimson King, Dr. Mules (purple), Lavender, Fire King (reddish), Prichard's Al (dark purple).

Arabis (Rock Cress). *A. alpina compacta* (single) and *A. alpina* (double), white.

Alyssum (Gold dust). *A. saxatile*, yellow. Lemon Queen, a paler variety. *A. maritimum* is a sweet-scented annual.

Armeria (Thrift). *A. maritima* (Sea Pink), keeps in flower a long time, native of our own coasts; *A. alba*, white; *A. setacea*, pink, thickly covered with flowers.

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Ajuga reptans (Bugle). A variety of the field bugle that has bronze-purple foliage and deep blue flowers. Spreads very rapidly.

Anemone nemorosa is the wild wood anemone (white). *A. cærulea* is a pale blue cultivated variety of this. *A. blanda* and *A. apennina*, mauve and blue, are easily grown. The Pasque flower (*A. pulsatilla*) is deep purple, with a downy stem; requires lime. This form occurs locally on the chalk ridges in the E. counties.

Achillea rupestre (White Yarrow) and *A. tomentosum*, yellow.

Anchusa myosotidiflora has rich blue forget-me-not-like flowers.

Androsace carnea is a dwarf plant with dense pink masses of flowers.

Antirrhinums, although by nature wall and rock plants, are rather large for the rockery unless for some corner where a mass of colour is desired. *A. asarinum* is a trailing form.

Aquilegia alpina, the blue columbine.

Arenaria alpina or *montana*, Mountain Sandwort (white).

Dwarf Japanese azaleas flourish if peat is added.

Campanula. Of the bell flowers, *C. carpatica* (blue) and *C. carpatica alba* (white), *C. garganica* (blue), *C. pusilla* (blue); *C. rotundiflora* is the common harebell of our heaths.

Cerastium (Snow-in-Summer). White flowers and grey-green foliage all the winter. Very rapid grower.

Cistus (Rock-Rose); white, pink, cream.

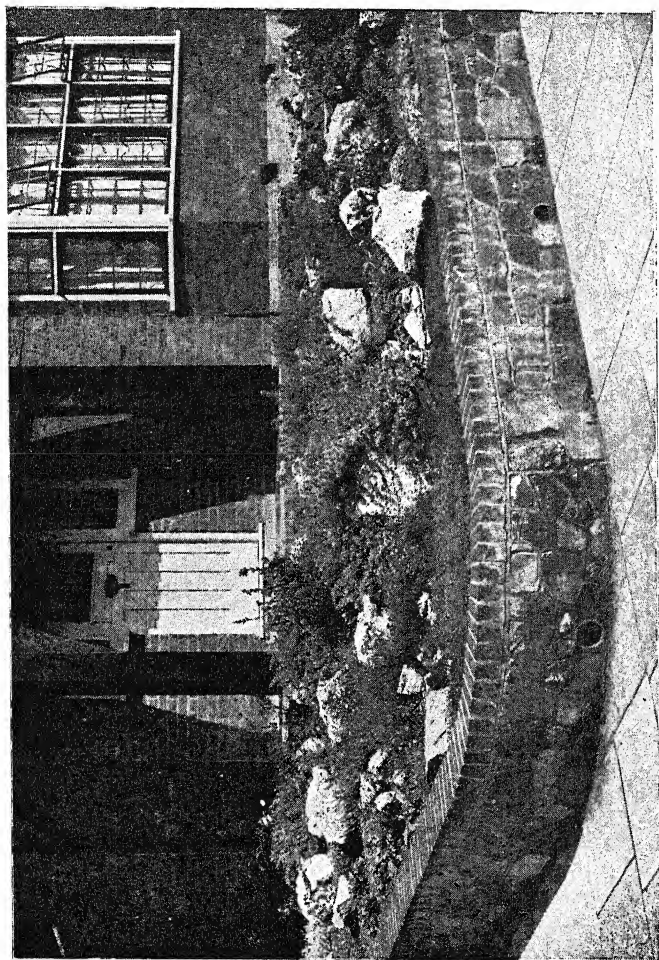
Cotoneaster. An evergreen shrub; dwarf, with white flowers and red berries.

Cytisus (Broom), several kinds; white, yellow, pink, etc., in dwarf forms.

Dianthus (Pinks). *D. alpinus*, rose. *D. deltoides* (maiden pink). *D. cæsius* (rock pink).

Dryas octopetala (Mountain Avens), creeping, with white flowers.

Erica carnea (Heath), rose red, January to May. *E. cinerea*



*A front garden
unusual but
effective in design.*



Rockeries and Rock Walls

rosea is the bell heather (pink). *E. (Calluna) vulgaris* alba is white heather.

Gypsophila repens is a useful white-flowered plant for walls or rockeries.

Helianthemum (Sun-Rose); pink, yellow, and white varieties.

Hieracium villosum (Hairy Hawkweed); yellow with downy foliage.

Iberis (Perennial Candytuft); white and mauve.

Linaria cymbalaria (Wall Toadflax); purple and yellow; creeping.

L. purpurea; mauve flowers, erect.

Linum perenne (Blue Flax), and *L.P. alba*, white.

Oxalis acetosella is wood-sorrel. *O. corniculata* is the yellow variety with brown foliage, and *O. enneaphylla* the pink.

Papaver alpinum; white alpine poppy.

Phlox; several dwarf varieties.

Primroses; double white, single yellow, blue, pink, etc.

Primula Auricula (Auricula). *P. frondosa*, *P. japonica* are two more good members of the genus, but there are many others. The Himalayan cowslip is *P. sikkimensis*.

Saponaria ocymoides has a pretty pink flower, and can easily be grown from seed.

Many *Saxifrages* of both mossy and silvery types. *S. umbrosa* is London pride.

Sedums (Stonecrops) form an extensive group of rock-plants, with white, pink and yellow flowers; many of these are natives of the British Isles.

House-Leeks. *Sempervivum tectorum* is the common house-leek and *S. arachnoideum* is the cobweb house-leek.

Silene (Catchfly). *S. acaulis*, pink, and *S. alpestris*, white.

Thyme; white, pink, and crimson varieties.

Veronica (Speedwell). Royal blue; erect. *V. rupestris*, blue. *V. repens*, pale bluish-white. Spreads rapidly over the rocks.

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Vinca minor (Periwinkle); a trailing evergreen, with white or mauve flowers (in shade or sun).

Viola. Maggie Mott, cornuta, Mauve Queen, gracilis, Black Knight, biflora, etc.

Plants for a shady rockery.

Anemone Hepatica (Common Hepatica), thrives on banks; *Anemone apennina* (Blue Alpine Anemone), *Arenaria balcarica* (Sandwort), *Campanula muralis* (Wall Campanula),

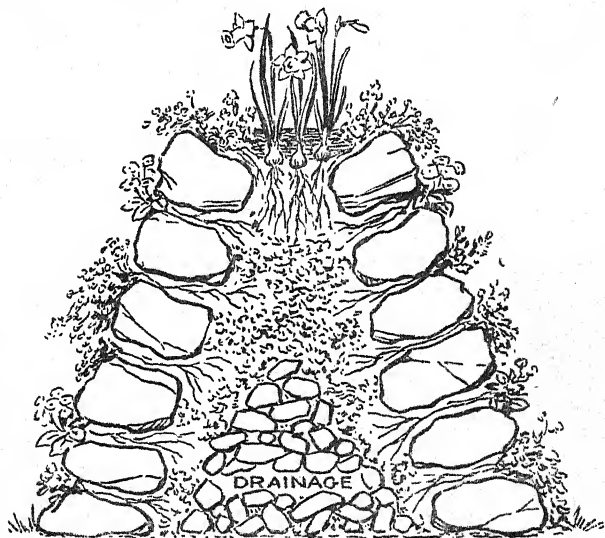


FIG. 14.—SECTIONAL VIEW OF DOUBLE-FACED STONE WALL.

C. pumula (Blue Bell Flower), *Corydalis lutea* (Yellow Fumitory), *Cyclamen hederæfolia* (Ivy-leaved Cyclamen), *Epimedium sulphureum* (Barrenwort), *Lithospermum prostratum* (Gromwell), *Lysimachia nummularia aurea* (Yellow Pimpernel), *Meconopsis cambrica* (Welsh Poppy), *Primula Juliae*, *Ramondia pyrenaica* (Pyrenean Primrose), *Vinca minor* (Periwinkle), *Iberis* (Evergreen Candytuft),

Rockeries and Rock Walls

Asperula odorata (Woodruff), *Saxifraga allioni*, etc. (Rockfoil),
Ajuga reptans (Bugle), *Saxifraga umbrosa* (London Pride),
Hypericum calycinum (Rose of Sharon), *Soldanella alpina*,
Trillium (Wood-Lily).

ROCK WALLS.

Many plants that will not flourish in borders where the soil is constantly damp in winter will grow well on walls, where their roots are dry—*e.g.*, Cheddar pink, wall penny-



FIG. 15.—CONSTRUCTION OF WALL FOR PLANTS.

Note backward slope, capacious root run, and ample drainage.

wort. Old walls may be made beautiful by carefully planting some wall-loving plants in a crack which has been well filled with soil, or better by dropping seeds into these crevices. The ivy-leaved toadflax (*Linaria cymbalaria*) and many stonecrops seem to flourish in the old decayed mortar in

What Shall I Do with My Garden?

stone walls, where there is apparently no moisture and nowhere for their roots to penetrate, but in new gardens, where a wall is often built to hold up a bank of earth, care must be taken to arrange the rocks so that the roots can reach the soil behind the wall. The rocks should not overhang each other, but should slope inwards and downwards to let the rain-water reach the roots, so that when finished the wall will lean slightly backwards.

Plants may be put in between the rocks while the wall

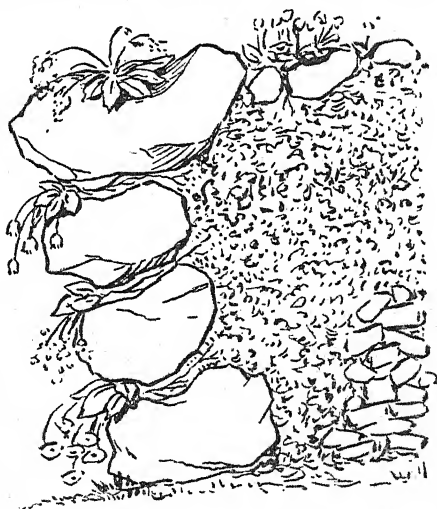


FIG. 16.—A BADLY CONSTRUCTED WALL.

Overhanging stones and wrong slope, involving starvation of plants.

is being built, provided their roots can penetrate to the soil behind. One great advantage of a wall-garden is that weeds do not seem to thrive in it so well as in the rockery. In some cases a dividing-wall is required, and if this is made wide with soil between two layers of stones, plants will flourish on the top and also between the stones (see diagram).

In old ruins broken-down stone walls are often covered with ferns and mosses, stonecrops, toadflax, etc., forming

Rockerries and Rock Walls

beautiful pictures, and it is the endeavour to imitate these that has given rise to the introduction of wall gardens in the general scheme of planting. Where a garden adjoins a field and no hedge exists, a sunk fence, walled and planted, as already described, looks very attractive.

Some plants that thrive on walls are aubrietia, iberis (Evergreen Candytuft), Dianthus cæsius (Cheddar Pink), cerasium (Snow-in-Summer), ferns (shady), helianthemum (Rock-Rose), Campanula carpatica and C. muralis, Gypsophila repens, Saponaria ocymoides (annual), alpine wall-flowers, stonecrops, and house-leeks.

Bulbs planted along the top of the wall give bright effects in spring.

PART V

PATHWAYS AND EDGINGS



PART V

PATHWAYS AND EDGINGS

PATHWAYS are often so straight and ugly that they completely spoil a garden, however attractive it may be in other ways. Paths should only be put where they are absolutely necessary for getting somewhere in the garden, for working a border, or wheeling rubbish. Flower borders are best in grass lawns or in paved gardens, not alongside a pathway; in some cases, however, where a passage is much used and the grass would soon be worn away, a path of some kind is better.

Grass paths, whenever they are possible, are more restful and beautiful than any other kind, and they are not a great deal of trouble to keep tidy. Edge-cutters are very useful where there are a good many grass paths.

Paved paths always give pleasing results, whatever the colour of the stone or type of paving employed, as long as they are not set with cement or mortar, but with soil, so that all kinds of delightful little rock-plants may be grown in the cracks between the stones. Weeds will also grow there, but these can be kept in check by hand-pulling, and the pleasure of seeing the flowering plants is well worth any trouble the weeds may entail. Near towns slabs of broken street paving-stones can be obtained from the council yards, and these form good crazy-paving. Fairly flat pieces of limestone with rough surfaces may also be used for paving, or the small stones, as in some cottage gardens.

Brick Paths.—Weathered bricks make good pavement for

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terraces or pathways, and may be set in any way that appeals to the reader.

Some small plants for growing in the cracks of pathways are thyme, the dwarf varieties, especially *Thymus serpyllum coccineus*, which has a creeping habit and crimson flowers, thus making bright lines over the pavement.

Stonecrops (*Sedums*): The yellow stonecrop, *S. acre*, which is wild on walls and rocky places, grows easily in the cracks; also *S. anglicum*, a pink-flowered species, and *S. album* (white).

Rockfoils (*Saxifrages*) of the mossy type thrive between flagstones and in steps. Of these, *Saxifraga densa* is one of the quickest to spread.

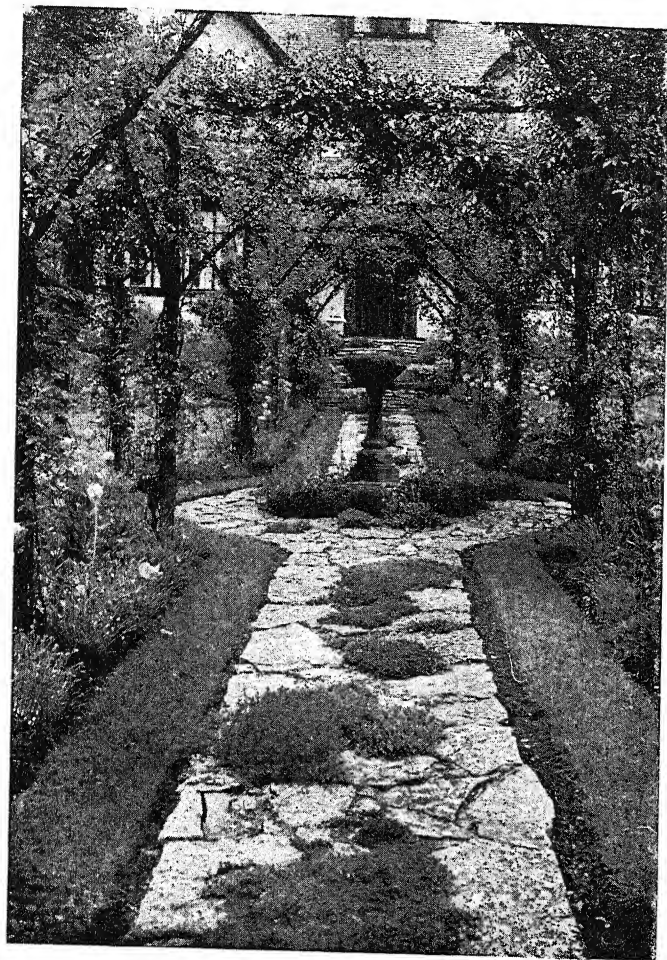
Speedwells (*Veronica*) are very rapid growers, and form pleasing patches of blue.

Ionopsidium, a tiny annual that can easily be grown from seed, has minute mauve or white flowers, and belongs to the same family as sweet alyssum (*A. maritimum*), also an annual that can be made use of for the same purpose.

Several species of *linaria* (Toadflax) might also be planted. The commonest of these is the beautiful little ivy-leaved toadflax (*Linaria cymbalaria*), a creeping plant with minute snapdragon flowers; this species grows wild on the walls in limestone districts. Many other examples will be found in the nurserymen's catalogues.

Gravel Paths.—These are usually a good colour when weathered, and they can be laid without great trouble or expense. The disadvantages of these paths are, firstly, that weeds, particularly grass, grow in them very rapidly, necessitating constant hoeing and rolling; and, secondly, that they are sticky and unpleasant in wet weather.

Asphalt and tarred cinder paths are easy to keep neat, but they spoil the beauty of any garden. Unfortunately builders often put them round modern small bungalows, but they always look artificial and commonplace.



*A rustic cloister
draped and
carpeted by Nature's
lavish hand.*

Pathways and Edgings

EDGINGS FOR BORDERS.

Edgings are of great importance, as they very often make or mar the effect of a small garden. They should always be as natural as possible and often look better uneven, but this depends upon the kind of edging used.

Edgings may be of various types. Stones, with rock-plants, coloured or white, in the spaces between them, are good; half-brick may also be used in the same way. Split poles, with the rounded edge outwards, are useful, but these do not last very long, and they should be backed by some edging plant. Tiles and boards are often used, but they look unnatural, and plants will not easily ramble over them. People who strive after spick-and-span tidiness in their gardens often prefer to use them. Plain tiles, almost entirely embedded in the soil, and treated as in the case of the stones, often give good results, but ornamental tiles should be avoided. Plain tiles and boards are useful in the kitchen garden.

Many people use plants for their edgings, and these are often far more attractive than any of the above. The position and planting of the border and the nature of the path should be taken into consideration before the edging is finally selected. Of the plants most commonly used for this purpose, box, lavender, and rosemary have probably been longest in use. Box has a dark green foliage—it is evergreen—and if kept well clipped makes a good edging in rose or formal gardens, but clipping box takes a long time, and is not easy to do, so that this edging is not so popular in modern gardens. No one wants to spend the precious gardening hours keeping an edging tidy! Lavender hedges are always attractive, but are too high to be considered as an ordinary edging. They look well in long straight paths. Many carpet rock-plants are useful as edgings, and are very little trouble to grow, as pieces broken off and planted will soon form a thick mass. In my own

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garden is an edging of saxifrage, now about 12 inches wide, that began life a little over a year ago, with some pieces rescued from a friend's rubbish heap!

Purple aubrietia and snow-in-summer (*Cerastium*) are also rapid growers. The latter is a very useful plant, for it has pretty white star-like flowers and grey foliage that keeps its colour all the winter, but it may become a nuisance in the garden, as it spreads very rapidly unless kept in check. Other perennials that may be employed are violas, pinks, arabis, yellow alyssum, dianthus, etc., and the two annuals, Virginian stock and sweet alyssum. Forget-me-not makes a good border for beds of wallflowers, tulips, narcissus, or all-blue herbaceous borders. In fact, forget-me-not borders are so effective that they may be used almost anywhere in the garden. These plants are biennials, but it is nearly always possible to save enough self-sown seedlings from the site of one year's border to carry on for the planting of the next year's show of flowers.

PART VI
CLIMBING PLANTS



PART VI

CLIMBING PLANTS

IN small gardens climbing plants will cover ugly fences, bare walls, trellises, form screens from neighbours, and trail over porches and arches. Apart from the fact that these plants add beauty to the garden, their methods of climbing are exceedingly interesting. Their stems are weak and straggling, and in order to reach air and light they are obliged to cling to some external support. Some climbers develop hard woody tissue in their stems after the end of the first season, but even then the stems are too long and thin to grow erect without support.

In many cases the stem simply twines round the support, and plants of this nature require stakes to twist round. The question of the nutation of stems belongs to the study of botany more than to gardening, but everyone must have noted the movements of the young stems of hops, beans, convolvulus, and many other plants in search of some support.

The twist is probably caused by a temporary cessation in the growth of the tissues of the stem at the point of contact and rapid development of the outward tissues, thus causing a bend, and so on, as the stem winds round the support. Hops, beans, honeysuckle, and convolvulus climb in this way. One of the most troublesome weeds of new gardens is the lesser bindweed (*Convolvulus arvensis*), which twines tightly round the stems of any other plant, and finally smothers it. It is difficult to eradicate on account of its rhizomes or underground stems, which form a network under the surface of the soil if once allowed to get a hold. Constant pulling will get rid of it in time.

What Shall I Do with My Garden?

Thorn Climbers.—Roses and the bramble tribe climb by means of backward-turned thorns, and once they have been fastened to a trellis or wall they cling together fairly well, but the young shoots are stragglers, and should be tied up as soon as possible, as they are the bloom-bearers of the following year.

Loganberries, although they have thorns, require to be nailed to the fence.

Petiole Climbers.—The various species of clematis form some of our most attractive climbers; these plants cling by twisted leaf-stalks (petioles), which curl round when they come into contact with the support. They will easily grow on trellises and woodwork of all kinds. If tied or nailed up at first, they go on clinging to their own branches.

The common wild clematis (*C. vitalba*, Old Man's Beard, Traveller's Joy), so prevalent in hedgerows in limestone districts, is a very rapid grower when once established. It will form a most effective screen, and can be left to grow at will from one season to another. *C. Montana* is also a rapid grower and a great favourite. It forms dense white clusters on summer-houses, arches, etc. The purple clematis (*C. Jackmanni*) makes lovely patches of colour against a grey or cream wall in late summer.

Canary creeper (*Tropæolum canariense*) and flame flower (*T. speciosum*) also climb by twining leaf-stalks. The latter of these two is very beautiful when once established on a wall or fence; it does not like hot sun, and generally thrives best with a north aspect. The tall nasturtium (*Tropæolum majus*) is really a trailer more than a climber, but with a little help it may be made to grow up trellis work or coarse mesh wire-netting.

The blue passion flower (*Passiflora cærulea*), a native of Brazil, is a beautiful climber, which is hardy in sheltered positions and grows quickly.

Tendrill Climbers.—Many climbing plants develop special sensitive organs, termed tendrils, to enable them to cling to

Climbing Plants

some support; this is especially characteristic of the pea family, but is also found in the vines and Virginian creepers, in the passion flowers described above, in the cucumbers and marrows, cobæa (Mexican ivy), and in the trumpet climbers (*Bignonia*) of N. America.

The vine seems to have been the oldest of the climbers grown in gardens, for it is found on many ancient ruins and is still seen in the open, although the fruit seldom ripens, on the cottages in Norfolk and some of the southern counties. Nearly related to the vine are the Virginian creepers. The best known are the large-leaved kind (*Vitis quinquefolia*), which is suitable for trellis-work, and the small-leaved kind (*Ampelopsis Veitchii*), which is a self-clinger, the tips of tendrils being widened out to form minute suckers which fasten themselves tightly to the surface of wall or wooden fence, driving out all the intervening air and held by pressure of air from without. There are many other species of vines, more or less hardy, but the two mentioned are striking features all over the country in early autumn on account of the brilliant colouring of their foliage. The sweet-pea, everlasting-pea, garden-pea, all have such delicate tendrils that they require thin twigs or wire-netting for a support.

While walking along a country lane it is interesting to count the number of climbing plants in the hedges and to note the various methods by which they climb. In fastening plants to walls or fences it is better to use strips of cloth and nails than string, as the latter quickly rots away.

PLANTS SUITABLE FOR HOUSE OR GARDEN WALLS AND WOODEN FENCES.

Roses, such as Gloire-de-Dijon, Climbing Caroline, Testout, Lemon Pillar, American Pillar Maréchal Niel, and William Allen Richardson.

Yellow Jasmine (*J. nudiflorum*). Flowers in winter.

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White Jasmine (*J. officinale*). Sweet-scented; will grow equally well over trellis.

Wistaria. One of our most beautiful climbers, with festoons of lovely mauve flowers.

Chinese Plum (*Prunus triloba*) has pink flowers.

Japanese Quince (*Pyrus japonica*), with deep pink flowers; often seen on cottage walls.

Jews' Mallow (*Kerria japonica*) has bright yellow ball-shaped flowers. It grows best with the protection of a wall, but may also be grown as a bush.

Buddleia has mauve to purple flowers. Is really a shrub, but can be successfully grown against a house. *B. variabilis* and varieties such as *Veitchii magnifica*, etc.

Ivy (*Hedera*). Many very ornamental species of ivy are to be had. They are easy climbers, holding themselves up by means of root-like organs developed on the side of the stem against the wall. Some of the wild ivies have very beautiful leaf forms.

Californian Lilac (*Ceanothus*) is a less common climber, but is a lovely blue colour.

Cotoneaster has dark green foliage and beautiful red berries in the autumn.

PLANTS FOR PERGOLAS, ARCHES, AND SUMMER-HOUSES.

Pergolas originated in Italy and the South of France, where shady walks were necessary, and they were often covered with grape-vines. In England they are seldom required for shade, but they may be, according to their method of construction, beautiful features in the garden. A single row of rose-arches is sometimes termed a pergola, but, strictly speaking, it should be a connected row of arches roofed in by climbing plants. Many people put up their own arches, etc., as rustic poles can generally be obtained in any neighbourhood, but ready-made rustic work can be bought.



*A garden vista of
rarest charm
framed by chaste
white Clematis.*

Climbing Plants

Roses: American Pillar, quick-growing, deep rose-pink; Dorothy Perkins, paler pink; Lady Gay, deep rose; Paul's Scarlet Rambler; Snowflake, white rambler; Hiawatha, crimson; Alberic Barbier, sweet-scented, dark green, shiny foliage, usually evergreen, creamy white, yellow in bud; Lemon Pillar, pale yellow; and many others.

Clematis (*C. vitalba*, traveller's joy, or old man's beard): Native wild plant, quickly forming thick screens in gardens, but does not flower freely for several years. Grows best in limestone or chalk districts. *C. Jackmanni*, the large purple clematis. *C. montana*; quick-growing and free flowering; for porches or summer-houses. *C. montana perfecta*, a newer form of *C. montana*, and rosy-white in colour. Lady Northcliffe, deep lavender blue. Crimson King, crimson purple shade.

Honeysuckles (*Lonicera*): *L. Periclymenum* is the wild honeysuckle, very sweet-scented and beautifully shaded from cream to pink. Japanese variegated honeysuckle (*L. aurea reticulata*) is not nearly so attractive as the wild honeysuckle.

Everlasting-Pea (*Lathyrus latifolius*), a hardy perennial that can be grown from seed; white and pink varieties.

White Jasmine (*Jasminum officinale*).

Polygonum Baldschuanicum is a very quick grower and forms an excellent screen-plant.

Of the annual climbers, the best known are Canary creeper (*T. canariensis*), sweet-peas, tall nasturtium, convolvulus, *Mina lobata*, *Cobæa scandens*, and *Ecchremocarpus scaber*.



PART VII

SHRUBS AND ORNAMENTAL TREES



PART VII

SHRUBS AND ORNAMENTAL TREES

THE old-fashioned Victorian shrubbery is not seen in modern gardens to any great extent, such a plantation being quite unsuited to a small new garden.

In modern gardens flowering shrubs take a far more important place than formerly; and evergreens, such as yew, box, cypress, etc., are more used for clipped hedges and bushes in a formal garden than in the general planting scheme.

Ornamental trees and shrubs are particularly suitable in front of small houses, as they require little attention when once established, with the exception of light pruning to keep them from spreading where they are not wanted. If pruned too closely and severely the beauty of the shrubs will be ruined. Any cutting required should be done directly after the shrubs have flowered, only the old and dead wood being cut away to give the new shoots room to grow, as they are the flowering shoots of the following year. A small garden may be made very attractive with flowering shrubs alone if these are planted in grass lawns and a few climbers trailed over the arches and fences. Too much digging at the end of the season is not good for them, as it often injures the roots, while a top dressing of manure and leaf-mould left on through the autumn will be just as beneficial as manure which is dug into the ground.

Flowering shrubs may be introduced into the garden in several different ways. They may be planted in a wide sloping border with a broad edging of lavender, nepeta,

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cerastium, violas, or grass. In this case, if a few evergreens are among them, including some variegated forms, they will prevent a bare appearance in winter. Planted in this way, with careful attention to colour and grouping, they will form a beautiful border, some part of which will be in bloom all the year round, and which does not entail a great deal of labour in its upkeep.

Flowering shrubs are sometimes planted as a background to a border of hardy plants, but in this case their individual beauty is lost, and they are often choked and hidden by the herbaceous plants in front. They are seen to the best advantage when grown singly or in groups in a wide stretch of grass either level or on a slope. Where rhododendrons flourish, as in Surrey, Hampshire, Norfolk, and Cheshire, etc., all the gardens look bright in May and early June with walks or clumps of these shrubs in all shades, including the common or wild type which occurs in woods. But rhododendrons are not easy to grow everywhere, as they do not take kindly to soil that has much lime and no peaty matter; and even if they can be persuaded to live at all, they may not flourish in a satisfactory manner.

LIST OF WELL-KNOWN FLOWERING SHRUBS.

Colour and season of bloom are given.

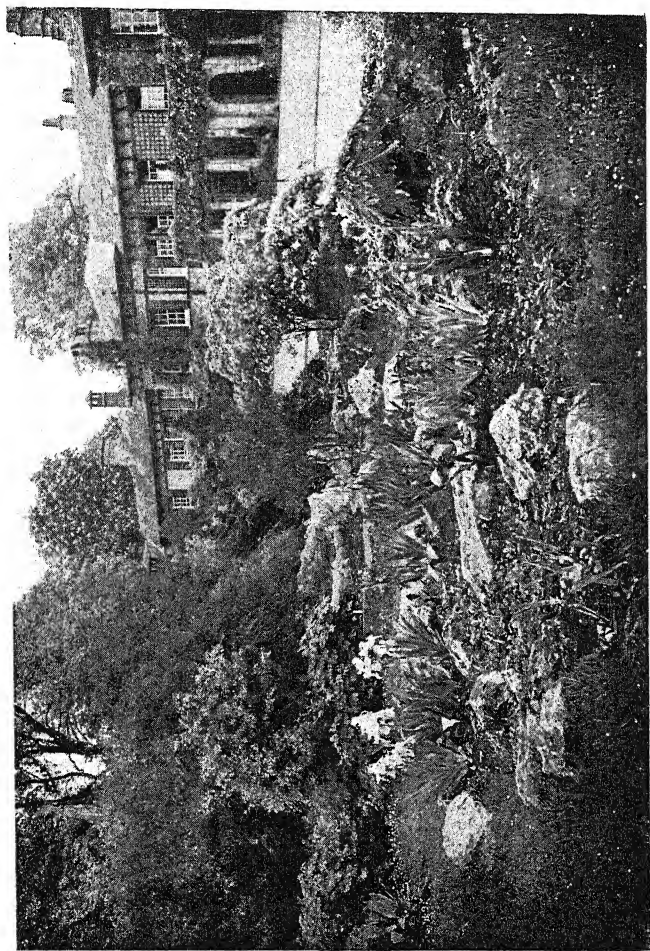
Azalea; all shades. May-June.

Berberis (Barberry); yellow flowers, brilliant; berries. Many species. April-May.

Buddleia (tree or shrub). B. globosa (Orange Ball Tree), yellow; May-June. B. Veitchiana, etc., purple to violet; August.

Cornus (Dogweed or Cornel); reddish purple foliage in early summer; purple berries in autumn.

Cytisus (Broom). C. scoparius (native), yellow; C. Andreanus, red and yellow; C. albus, etc., white. All flower in May and June.



*Rocks, shrubs, and
lawn combine in
restful harmony.*

Shrubs and Ornamental Trees

Deutzia (double and single); white, fragrant. May and June.

Forsythia (Golden Bells); yellow. March.

Fuchsia; scarlet and purple, etc. July-August.

Genista (Spanish Gorse); yellow. May-June.

Hydrangea (half-hardy); pink to blue. August.

Hypericum (Rose of Sharon); golden. Summer.

Kalmia (evergreen); pink. May-June.

Magnolia; creamy white, fragrant; according to species.

Philadelphus (Mock Orange); white flowers, fragrant. June.

Prunus Persica (Double Pink Peach); blossoms last a long time. Spring.

Prunus pissardi (Copper-leaved Plum); white flowers; bush or tree. Spring.

Rhododendron (many varieties); all shades. May-June.

Ribes (Flowering Currant); pink to scarlet. May.

Romneya (Tree Poppy); white, yellow centres. June to September.

Rosemary; scented foliage. February.

Rhus (Sumach); rich red foliage in autumn. April-June.

Spiræa (Meadowsweet); white and pink, beautiful. May-August.

Syringa (Lilac). *S. vulgaris* (purple L.), *S. v. alba* (white); also double varieties; fragrant. May.

Tamarix (Tamarisk); feathery foliage and pink flowers. Summer.

Ulex (Gorse); orange yellow, double and single varieties; various periods.

Veronica (Speedwell). *V. Autumn Glory*, mauve, evergreen; *V. Traversii*, white, evergreen. September.

Viburnum (Guelder Rose). *V. Opulus sterilis* (Snowball Tree), *V. Opulus* (White Guelder Rose), *V. Lantana* (Way-faring Tree), *V. Tinus* (Laurustinus). The last-named flowers in winter and the rest in June.

Weigelia (Diervilla); pink, white varieties. Summer.

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EVERGREEN SHRUBS.

Aucuba Japonica (Japanese Laurel) and *A. Japonica variegata* (Variegated Laurel).

Buxus (Box); several varieties. Clips well.

Berberis. *Mahonia* type, with yellow flowers and dark foliage.

Cotoneaster. Hardy evergreen with orange-red berries.

Cupressus macrocarpa. Good for hedges in S. of England.

Daphne (Spurge Laurel).

Erica (Evergreen Heaths). A large number of beautiful varieties.

Euonymus radicans (Evergreen Spindle Tree, dwarf form).

Ilex (Holly). Also golden-leaved and silver-leaved forms.

Juniperus (Juniper). Several varieties for garden and rockery.

Laurus (Laurel). Several species. All useful evergreens, but they impoverish the soil.

Ligustrum (Privet). Good for hedges.

Myrtus (Myrtle). Succeeds in sheltered position.

Olearia (Daisy Bush); white flowers. An excellent town shrub.

Bamboos, with their handsome grass-like foliage, live out of doors through the winter in the milder parts of England.

ORNAMENTAL FLOWERING TREES.

Arbutus (Strawberry Tree); creamy-white flowers, orange-red fruits.

Æsculus (Horse Chestnut); pink and white varieties.

Cratægus (May or Hawthorn); pink, white; single and double varieties.

Laburnum; hanging yellow racemes.

Liriodendron (Tulip Tree); large pale yellowish-green flowers.

Magnolia (Lily Tree); beautiful creamy-white flowers;

Shrubs and Ornamental Trees

not quite hardy. Will succeed in S. counties and sheltered places.

Prunus (Cherries and Plums). *P. Cerasus* (Wild Cherry); white flowers; also a double variety. *P. Padus* (Bird Cherry); lovely white flowers in drooping racemes; wild in some parts. *P. Amygdalus* (Almond); pink flowers, come out before the leaves; will thrive in towns. *P. Avium* (Gean); bronze leaves in spring; white flowers and blackish-purple berries. *P. Pissardi* (Copper-leaved Plum); beautiful reddish-brown foliage; white flowers. *P. spinosa* (Blackthorn); white flowers, conspicuous in early spring, against black stems; thorns poisonous.

Pyrus (Apples and Pears, etc.). *P. Malus* (Crab Apple); pink blossom. *P. M. floribunda*; deep pink variety. *P. M. atropurpurea*; purple foliage. *P. Aucuparia* (Mountain Ash); white flowers, scarlet berries. *P. Aria* (White Bean); white flowers, silvery foliage, red berries.

Robinia (Locust Tree or False Acacia); white and pink varieties, resembling laburnum in form.

TREES FOR FOLIAGE AND SHADE.

Most of the trees in the following list are too large for small gardens, as their roots spread and impoverish the soil.

Evergreen.

Abies (the Spruce Firs). *A. excelsa* (Norway Spruce); very hardy. *A. Douglasii* (Douglas Fir); tall ornamental tree. *A. pectinata* (Silver Fir).

Cedrus Libani (Cedar of Lebanon); dark foliage, short bole, spreading branches. *Cedrus deodara* (Indian Cedar); taller tree, pointed in growth.

Cupressus Lawsoniana (Lawson's Cypress); very tall tree; tiny leaves, overlapping each other and the stem.

Pinus (the Pine group). *P. sylvestris* (Scotch Pine or Fir); beautiful bluish-green foliage and brown stems. *P. laricio*

What Shall I Do with My Garden?

(Austrian Pine); more slender tree, with finer needles in groups of four instead of two. *P. Pinea* (Stone Pine); an Italian form, not so tall and more spreading.

Taxus (Yew); well-known tree with dark foliage, and the seeds in pink fleshy cups. Also Golden variety.

Thuya (*Arbor Vitæ*); several varieties which make handsome specimens.

(The foregoing are coniferous trees.)

Ilex (Holly); tree or shrub. Wild on hillsides, especially in south and west.

Juglans (Walnut); large dark-green leaves.

Quercus Ilex (Evergreen Oak); small leaves and dense growth.

Deciduous.

Acer (Maples and Sycamores); several garden varieties.

Alnus (Alder); flourishes in damp ground.

Betula (Birch); well-known tree with silvery bark and fine drooping branches.

Fagus (Beech); common and copper-leaved varieties.

Fraxinus (Ash); beautiful, and very large compound leaves.

Larix (Larch); a deciduous conifer. Conspicuous in spring with light green tufts of needles and pinkish new cones.

Populus (Poplar). *P. alba* (White Poplar); *P. tremula* (Aspen), silvery foliage; *P. nigra* (Black Poplar); *P. Italica* (Lombardy), tall form.

Platanus (Plane); flourishes in towns. Fruits are hanging balls.

Tilia (Lime); graceful tree, easily grown.

Ulmus (Elm); too high for most gardens.

Quercus (Oak); there is a variety with coloured foliage.